

WOMEN, PEACE AND SECURITY IN ACTION IN ARMENIA

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Women Peace and Security in action

Annotation: This resource book is aimed to be a practical tool for all those state organizations, CSOs, international organizations that are involved in Women, Peace and Security (WPS). The volume comprises manual itself, the glossary of terminology and the translation of the UNSCR on WPS.

About Democracy Today NGO

“Democracy Today” is working to support democratic developments in Armenia by transforming attitudes about the importance of citizens’ participation in building the country, specifically women and youth. We strongly believe there cannot be democracy and peace unless women are allowed to take responsibility for their own lives and the lives of their country, specifically in the areas of building peace and preventing war. Meaningful participation of women can make the important difference between failure and success. We work across the border with allies thought the world to make peace and democracy a reality.

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SECTION 1

WOMEN, PEACE AND SECURITY IN ACTION IN ARMENIA

INTRODUCTION

Women are the essential voice, power and agents of change within any society. Their perspectives, capacities and active participation are crucial to local dialogues, inclusive and balanced policies, and equitable peace deals. Throughout the long history of the Armenian nation, Armenian women have proved their invaluable role in building peaceful and stable societies, and investing in democratic and equitable policies.

The goal of this resource book, “Women, Peace and Security in Action in Armenia,” is to translate the United Nation’s Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1325, Women, Peace and Security (WPS), and nine other related resolutions’ transformative potentials into a vital tool for moving Armenia’s government towards becoming a democratic decision-making body that prioritises gender justice and long-term, sustainable peace, and to propose promising next steps to address the numerous questions arising in Armenian society related to the importance of UNSCR 1325, including its interrelation with other international legal instruments ratified by Armenia with the aim of advancing women’s rights and gender equality, such as the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW). A key takeaway from UNSCR 1325 is the acknowledgement that women are not only victims of war, but serve as essential agents of peace. The WPS agenda goes beyond the mere inclusion of women in all sectors of peace-building and security, and emphasizes the importance of democratic principles, incisiveness, and the long-term sustainability of peace. Resolution 1325 also utilizes the broader interpretation of the concept of “security” to include that of human security, shifting away from the traditional focus on state security, to that of policies and programmes aimed at respecting human rights and ensuring the safety and equal participation of all genders in the peace process.

This resource book will also outline how these tools will align with Armenia’s second National Action Plan on WPS (referred to from here on as “NAP”), and serve as a practical guide for all actors involved in WPS, (whether governmental or community-based, including policymakers, civil society leaders, peace activists, international and national experts, journalists, and other relevant organisations and individuals), while detailing a results-based design with monitoring and evaluation tools to maximize impact. A core focus of the publication will concentrate on the essential development of the National Action Plan so that it can be used as a viable framework to implement the commitments stipulated therein and provide guidance for the cooperation between civil society actors to hold states accountable. The NAP is not only a political framework outlining the state’s obligations, but demonstrates the state’s value system and the direction in which it chooses to develop (or regress). The NAP will therefore serve as an invaluable resource to all those whose work invests in strengthening the equality, democracy and security of the Republic of Armenia.

This publication invites all WPS actors to openly discuss the provided recommendations to transform the government's adoption of Armenia's second National Plan of Action on WPS into strong, impactful policies and programmes that include women in all stages of the peace process, thus increasing stability and equality in Armenia.

The “Women Peace and Security in Action, Armenia” is composed of five sections:

1. Section 1: An explanation of the NAP's core components, programmes and concepts; an analysis of Armenia's first NAP; and practical tools to strengthen the implementation of the second NAP, including examples of both state and civil society programmes addressing WPS in Armenia;
2. Section 2: A glossary containing more than 120 internationally-recognized WPS terms that will aid experts, and all those involved in WPS, in defining and consolidating these terms with relevant examples;
3. Section 3: A cache including a compilation of 9 WPS Resolutions translated into the Armenian language to be used as a quick reference guide for professionals
4. Section 4: Compilation of useful resources and links to organizations at the heart of the WPS field; and the official text of the second NAP.
5. Section 5: List of abbreviations and space for the recommendations from the users.

This publication will be combined with open discussions to finalize recommendations, followed by rigorous awareness-raising and training programmes that will translate a once static text into a living and dynamic instrument of change.

CHAPTER 1

“We have equal rights and responsibilities for the peace and security of our country”

Female Students of the Military Academy¹

PREFACE

The “Velvet Revolution,” being purely an internal process, became the “historic opportunity for the democratic development”² and building of a society based on the rule of law that Armenia strived to achieve from the very first days following its Declaration of Independence in 1991. It transformed people’s thinking from that of frustration, powerlessness, and a loss of trust in their country’s kleptocratic system, into a new and inspirational movement for change rooted in people’s power, giving everyone the opportunity to become an agent of change. “The Armenian experience underscores that protests are not merely fleeting outbursts that relieve the pressure on a dysfunctional system....they generate leaders, encourage young people to keep questioning the political elite, and foster collaboration among members of civil society.”³ People from all sectors of society have been active participants in the revolution; young women and youth were strong supporters of the revolution and recognized the vital opportunity to bring innovative thinking and renewed discourse on women’s equal partnership in societal development, peace and security.

Despite the high price that this small country has paid for its demand for “democratic” choice, including three wars within a 30 year period resulting in substantial human loss, internal displacement, destruction of infrastructure, blockades, a flow of refugees, and a change in national borders that placed people in a new socio-political environment, the Armenian people never stopped advocating for and demanding their right to a democratic system, and women have acted as equal partners to pave that road. In fact, even in spite of the complex and ongoing security situation, Armenia is ranked 83rd in the 2022 Global Peace Index, surpassing its neighbors Georgia, Turkey and Azerbaijan as the most peaceful nation in the Caucasus.⁴

1.1 The Intersection of Gender Equality and Democratization Processes in Armenia

The empowerment of women and establishment of gender equality are crucial to any democracy. Democracy is as much about citizenship rights, participation, and inclusion as

1. Equal rights and equal; responsibilities, young women in defense sector, Yerevan 2022 Democracy Today NGO

2. Armenia’s Velvet Revolution Miriam Lansky Elspeth Suthes <https://www.journalofdemocracy.org/articles/armenias-velvet-revolution/>

3. CEDAW Report Armenia <https://www.ohchr.org/en/countries/armenia>

The Gender of Democracy: The Link Between Women’s Rights and Democratization in the Middle East. Carnegie Endowment for International Peace <https://carnegieendowment.org/sada/21226>

4. <https://armenpress.am/eng/news/1086233.html>

it is about political parties, elections, and checks and balances. The quality of a democracy is determined not only by the mode of its institutions, but also by the extent to which different social groups are able to participate within these institutions. Women may need democracy in order to flourish, but the converse is also true: democracy needs women if it is to be an inclusive, representative, and enduring system of government.⁵

In independent Armenia, the first international treaty signed by the newly-formed government was the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) in 1993. It is notable to mention that recently, Armenia presented its seventh periodic report on the implementation of the Convention to the UN Human Rights Council.⁶ This dialogue that ensued with the CEDAW committee initiated a transformative process of mutual learning, review of best practices, and moving steadily closer towards a future with new laws and policies designed and implemented to provide comprehensive women's rights, protection and empowerment.

As of today, a number of legislative regulations and strategies have been adopted, and institutional mechanisms established, to ensure the equal rights of men and women, and prevent and punish acts of gender-based violence. On 19 September 2019, the Armenian government adopted the Strategic Programme for the Gender Policy Implementation in the Republic of Armenia for 2019-2023, which serves as a critical initiative to prevent gender-based discrimination, and highlights the importance of men and women's equal participation in decision-making processes in all areas.

The National Strategy for Human Rights Protection of RA (2020-2022) is another important document that heavily references women's rights protections, and specifically highlights the importance of anti-discrimination, inclusivity, as well as the application of mechanisms to protect women from violence. By the decision of the Deputy Prime Minister Tigran Avinyan the Women's Council and Working Group on Women's Issues was established to serve as a national mechanism to strengthen the involvement of women in the democratic process, and ensure equal rights and equal opportunities amongst the men and women in Armenia.⁷

According to the Global Gender Gap Index⁸, Armenia advanced its standing from 2019 to 2020, with a slight decline in 2021, mostly within the economic sub-index category as a result of COVID-19 and the 44-day war.⁹ Armenia's Gender Action Plan III (2021-2025)¹⁰

5. Valintine Moghadam the Gender and Democracy. The link between democracy and women's rights. <https://carnegieendowment.org/sada/21226>

6. <https://www.ohchr.org/en/countries/armenia>

7. The Prime Minister Of The Republic Of Armenia. n.d. "Decision to establish a council and working group on women's issues in The Republic of Armenia." <https://www.irtek.am/views/act.aspx?aid=102587>.

8. Statista. n.d. The global gender gap index 2022. <https://www.statista.com/statistics/244387/the-global-gender-gap-index/>.

9. Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan. 2021. "The Origins of the 44-Day War," an article authored by Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan. January 04.

10. Republic of Armenia. n.d. "Gender Action Plan III- 2021-2025 ." European External Action Service. https://www.eeas.europa.eu/sites/default/files/documents/Country%20level%20Implementation%20plan_%20ARMENIA_ENG_0.pdf.

is designed as a cooperative tool between the European Commission and Armenia, and addresses gender equality and the establishment of equal opportunities for women in all areas of the social-economic and political spheres of the country, which will further aid in improving its Index score.

In March 2019, the Permanent Representative of Armenia to the UN was elected as the Chair of the 64th and 65th sessions of the UN Commission on the Status of Women from 2020-2021. Within its capacity as the Chair of this Commission, Armenia facilitated the meeting dedicated to the 25th anniversary of the Beijing Conference. The political declaration adopted during this meeting reaffirmed the idea that women at all levels of the peace and decision-making processes, as well as international mediation efforts, should be guaranteed full, equal and meaningful participation.

Box 1 International Legal Instruments Related to Women, Peace and Security that Armenia is Party to:

1. Convention on the Political Rights of Women, 193 U.N.T.S. 135

The Convention on the Political Rights of Women was approved by the United Nations General Assembly during its 409th plenary meeting on 20 December 1952, was adopted on 31 March 1953, and entered into force on 7 July 1954. The Convention's purpose is to codify basic international standards for women's political rights. The Preamble of the Convention reiterates the principles set out in article 21 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which declares that all people have the right to participate in the government of their country and access public services. The Convention on the Political Rights of Women specifically protects this right for women.

2. Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action

The Beijing Platform for Action, convened in Beijing, China in September 1995, is a landmark agenda that originated from the Fourth World Conference on

Women. Member States and civil society participants from around the world reviewed the status of their countries' progress towards gender equality and women's empowerment, and outlined new requirements to accelerate these initiatives. Twelve critical areas of concern were identified in the resulting Beijing Declaration: Women and Poverty; Education and Training of Women; Women and Health; Violence against Women; the Girl-Child; Women and the Economy; Women in Power and Decision-making; Institutional Mechanism for the Advancement of Women; Human Rights of Women; Women and the Media; Women and the Environment; and Women and Armed Conflict. The Platform for Action reaffirmed the fundamental principle that the human rights of women and girls are an inalienable, integral and indivisible part of universal human rights. As an actionable agenda, the Platform seeks to promote and protect the full enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all women.

3. Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW)

Adopted in 1979 by the UN General Assembly, CEDAW is the only international bill of rights for women, and is the second most-ratified convention following the Rights of the Child. CEDAW articulates the nature and meaning of sex-based discrimination and gender equality, and lays out the obligations of member states to eliminate discrimination. The Convention covers discriminatory laws, practices and customs, and applies not only to eliminating discriminatory actions by the state, but also asserts the state's responsibility to address discrimination against women by private actors. The Convention covers both civil and political rights, such as: the right to vote, to participate in public life, to acquire, change or retain a nationality, equality before the law, and freedom of movement. Economic, social and cultural rights, such the right to education, work, health, and financial credit are also covered.

4. Convention on Transnational Organised Crime and the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially for Women and Children, Supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organised Crime

This Convention, which was widely adopted by UN member states, provided the first comprehensive definition of trafficking in women and children, and established measures to prevent, suppress and punish trafficking in human beings.

5. Council of Europe Convention on Action Against Trafficking in Humans

This Convention was adopted by the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe on 3 May 2005 and entered into force on 1 February 2008. The Convention builds on existing international instruments, but goes beyond the standards previously established, to strengthen the protections afforded to victims. The Convention is broad in scope and covers all forms of trafficking, national and transnational, whether or not it is linked to organised crime. It also recognises all victims of trafficking (women, men, and children).

The forms of exploitation covered by the Convention include sexual exploitation, forced labour or services, slavery and similar practices, servitude, and the removal of organs. The main innovations of the Convention are the human rights perspective it brings, and the focus on victim protection. The Preamble defines trafficking in human beings as a violation of human rights and an offence to the dignity and integrity of the human being. Another key improvement introduced by the Convention is the monitoring system it sets up to supervise the implementation of the obligations contained therein. This monitoring system consists of two pillars: the Group of Experts on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings (GRETA) and the Committee of the Parties.

6. UNSCR 1325: Women, Peace and Security

Adopted by the UN Security Council on 31 October 2000, S/RES/1325/ addresses the impacts of war on women and the importance of women's full and equal participation in conflict resolution, peacebuilding, peacekeeping, humanitarian response, and within post-

conflict reconstruction. UNSCR 1325 was a landmark resolution in that it was the first to address the issue of women's inclusion in peace and security matters. It also launched what became a series of additional resolutions, each of which addressing a unique concern regarding the protection of women and girls during conflict and their participation in decision-making processes.

The Security Council has adopted 10 resolutions on Women, Peace and Security (WPS): Security Council Resolutions 1325 (2000), 1820 (2008), 1888 (2008), 1889 (2009), 1960 (2010), 2106 (2013), 2122 (2013), 2242 (2015), 2467 (2019), and 2493 (2019). Together, they form the international policy framework on WPS and were adopted in response to persistent civil society advocacy campaigns. The obligations stipulated in the resolutions extend from the international sphere down to the national level and guide initiatives promoting and protecting the rights of women in conflict and post-conflict contexts. Additionally, as binding Security Council resolutions, they should be implemented by all member states and relevant actors, including UN system entities and parties to conflict.

SCR 1820: Passed in 2008, Resolution 1820 recognizes that conflict-related sexual violence is a warfare tactic and calls

for the training of troops on preventing and responding to sexual violence, the deployment of more women to peace operations, and the enforcement of zero-tolerance policies for peacekeepers with regards to acts of sexual exploitation and abuse.

SCR 1888: Passed in 2009, Resolution 1888 strengthens the implementation of Resolution 1820 by calling for leadership to address conflict-related sexual violence, deploy teams including both military and gender experts to critical conflict areas, and improve monitoring and reporting on conflict trends and documenting perpetrators.

SCR 1889: Passed in 2009, Resolution 1889 addresses obstacles to women's participation in peace processes and calls for the development of global indicators to track the implementation of Resolution 1325 and improve international and national responses to the needs of women in conflict and post-conflict settings.

SCR 1960: Passed in December 2010, Resolution 1960 calls for an end to sexual violence in armed conflict, particularly against women and girls, and provides measures aimed at ending the impunity of perpetrators of sexual violence, including through sanctions and reporting measures.

CHAPTER 2

22 YEARS OF UNSCR 1325: WOMEN, PEACE AND SECURITY

This year marks the twenty-second anniversary of the adoption of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325, Women, Peace and Security; the most important decision thus far in the United Nations' efforts to achieve world peace through gender equality. Over the past several decades, the international community has consolidated its focus on gender, including the relationship between gender and international peace and security. Individual governments and the United Nations have taken unprecedented steps to advance the role of women in governance and peacebuilding. Prompted by the grass-roots leadership of women organizing for peace around the globe, the adoption of this landmark Resolution has made meaningful steps towards ensuring that women are indispensable and active peacemaking and peacebuilding agents. Delegations from all over the world, bringing with them their diverse histories, cultures and societal norms, united to negotiate the most acceptable normative formulations of the document with the expectation of benefiting their respective societies and investing in the world of peace. Its adoption signaled a new and transformative approach to the introduction of gender perspectives already consolidated within the human rights framework, and its continued progress towards incorporating the security and peacebuilding sectors. Resolution 1325 engaged UN member states in a transformative process by bringing women to the forefront of democratic decision-making, translating gender inequality into gender justice, and conflict and violence into sustainable and feminist peace. Resolution 1325 (and its subsequent, complementary resolutions) constitute a solid regulatory framework for the United Nations, highlighting the Security Council's primary responsibility: to preserve international peace and security. In order to achieve this goal, gender equality is an essential precondition.¹¹

The adoption of UNSCR 1325 is significant for many reasons: it has broken the barrier between women's issues and international peace and security, which is an essential first step in establishing new norms. This rewriting of norms is significant as it creates a safe space for all parties to discuss the different goals that need to be achieved to successfully attain gender security.

This is the first time that a document has been developed at the highest international levels related to women in peace and conflict, and recommends that gender-issues are respected and incorporated into peacebuilding and reconciliation policies and programmes. Member states and organisations were encouraged to incorporate UNSCR 1325 into pre-existing laws, and develop new laws as needed. This process brought gender issues into the spotlight and provided the international community with a practical

11. Eight recommendations for the ii national action plan on women, peace and security, <https://www.realinstitutoelcano.org/en/analyses/eight-recommendations-for-the-ii-national-action-plan-on-women-peace-and-security/>

framework to be localised and utilised accordingly, translating international frameworks into a consolidated local programme to address communal needs.

Resolution 1325 also identified women as active participants, rather than passive recipients, within the peacebuilding process and identified women's participation as a rights-based approach, and not a freedom that men grant to women out of their own goodwill. This categorisation of women's participation as a human right strengthens the Resolution's impact without making it legally binding.

Resolution 1325 is the key advocacy framework for the rights of women and girls during conflict and crisis, and outlines the importance of integrating gender perspectives into conflict prevention, resolution and peacebuilding, as well as disaster and crisis responses. The UN Security Council has stated that situations of armed conflict, crisis and humanitarian emergencies make women and girls more vulnerable to threats like sexual and gender-based violence, child marriage, and exploitation.¹² This is due to the breakdown of societal infrastructure that impacts access to physical security, shelter, potable water, a reliable food supply, healthcare, education, economic opportunity and justice. Rather than portraying women and girls as weak or victims, UNSCR 1325 managed to balance women as both equals who are indisputably endowed with human rights, and whose participation and input are necessary at all levels of the peacebuilding and conflict mitigation processes, while simultaneously being those in need of additional, specialized protections. Recognizing women as active agents begins to erode away the misconception that women are weak, and builds an alternative concept of the feminine, where femininity is no longer synonymous with fragility. In reaffirming women's critical role in conflict prevention and resolution, negotiation, peacebuilding, peacemaking and peacekeeping, as well as in post-war reconstruction, integration and rehabilitation, the Resolution helps address the pervasive barriers to women's meaningful involvement in peace and security matters, and sets the stage for more inclusive policies and practices.

UNSCR 1325 is structured according four pillars (commonly referred to as "the 4Ps"): participation, prevention, protection, and relief and recovery. Under the first pillar, (participation), Resolution 1325 recognises the contribution of women in the peace building and conflict resolution processes. It calls for the increased participation of women in decision-making processes at national, regional, and international levels.

The second pillar, (prevention), urges organisations and countries to consider gender issues at the policy-making level in order to prevent attacks on women.

The third pillar, (protection), acknowledges that wars and armed conflicts have gendered aspects. The resolution urges warring parties to protect women's rights, including safeguarding women and girls from gender-based violence.

The fourth and final pillar, (relief and recovery), urges local actors, member states, and UN agencies to adopt a gendered perspective in peace operations, negotiations, and

12. <https://theforge.defence.gov.au/publications/understanding-women-peace-and-security-agenda>

agreements, and to include women in the resolution and recovery phases.

The General Recommendation of the CEDAW Experts Committee No. 30 reiterates the importance of including women in all stages of conflict and war. “The general recommendation specifically guides state parties on the implementation of their obligation of due diligence in respect of acts of private individuals or entities that impair the rights enshrined in the Convention, and makes suggestions as to how non-State actors can address women’s rights in conflict affected areas.” Paragraph 23 of the Recommendation introduces strict obligations for state actors to ensure that they work “to prevent, investigate and punish trafficking and sexual and gender-based violence are reinforced by international criminal law, including jurisprudence of the international and mixed criminal tribunals and the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, pursuant to which enslavement in the course of trafficking in women and girls, rape, sexual slavery, enforced prostitution, forced pregnancy, enforced sterilization or any other form of sexual violence of comparable gravity may constitute a war crime, a crime against humanity or an act of torture, or constitute an act of genocide.”¹³ International criminal law, including the definitions of gender-based violence, in particular sexual violence, must also be interpreted consistently with the Convention CEDAW/C/GC/30 13-54331 7/24 and other internationally recognised human rights instruments without adverse distinction as to gender.”¹⁴ The application of the General Recommendation is particularly relevant to the Armenian context in light of the numerous cases of violence against women resulting from the 44-day war, qualifying these war crimes as crimes against humanity.

Box 2 General Recommendation No. 30 on Women in Conflict Prevention, Conflict, and Post-Conflict Situations¹⁵

In 2010, the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women decided to adopt a General Recommendation on women in conflict prevention, conflict and post-conflict situations. The Recommendation aims to provide an authoritative guidance to state parties on legislative, policy and other appropriate measures to ensure that they maintain full compliance with their obligations to CEDAW, which ensures the protection,

fulfillment and respect of women’s human rights. In November 2013, the Committee reiterated the obligations of the Convention, detailing:

(i) all forms of violence and discrimination against women, perpetrated by any entity, before, during and after conflicts, including within international and domestic armed conflicts, occupation, internal disturbances, states of emergency, and terrorist or

13. The General Recommendation No. 30 on Women in conflict prevention, conflict and post-conflict situation, rec 30 CEDAW.pdf rec 30 CEDAW.pdf

14. <https://digitallibrary.un.org/record/764506?ln=en>

15. The General Recommendation No. 30 on Women in conflict prevention, conflict and post-conflict situations, rec 30 CEDAW.pdf rec 30 CEDAW.pdf

organised criminal acts;

(ii) guidelines to instruct state parties on how to implement their obligations; and

(iii) the nature of which the Recommendation coincides with international humanitarian, refugee, and criminal laws.

The General Recommendation can be an essential tool to aid in the implementation of Resolution 1325. Not only does the Recommendation explicitly reference the Resolution, it continues to reveal emerging operational needs that must be satisfied in order to promote gender-sensitive policies and plans, and protect women from all forms of discrimination in order to obtain sustainable peace and development. The document guides state actors in fulfilling their obligations to the Convention, encompassing all possible contexts and forms of violence and discrimination against women, committed by any entity, and against any victim, taking into consideration all vulnerabilities that women and girls may face before, during and after a conflict or crisis situation.

The Recommendation reiterates the territorial and extraterritorial application of state parties' obligations to protect and promote women's rights wherever states exercise their jurisdiction, including within the national contingents of international or United Nations peace operations, lawful or unlawful military actions in another state, donor assistance for humanitarian or reconstruction aid, and even trade agreements with conflict-affected countries. It also recognises that transitional periods from conflict to post-conflict situations are often not linear; rather, they may

involve periods of regression back into conflict where, most often, violence and discrimination against women do not end with the cessation of hostilities.

All too often, the violence silently continues after peace agreements are signed, taking on new forms. With this in mind, the Recommendation highlights the need to adopt a gendered approach when addressing conflict prevention and post-conflict reconstruction, including within political, electoral, and criminal justice systems, and throughout the disarmament, demobilisation, reintegration, and security sector reform processes. Similarly, a gendered lens is notably essential when considering other additional areas, such as the provision of medical assistance, implementing educational programmes, and at the macro-level when making amendments to domestic policies or constitutions.

Importantly, the Recommendation also recognises that women are not a homogeneous group, and that their experiences during conflict and post-conflict settings are diverse, therefore requiring specialised attention; women do not suffer the same types of human rights violations as men during the different phases of a conflict or crisis situation. It is therefore vital for states to take into account each woman's individual needs and the vulnerabilities that different variables may trigger in order to holistically fulfill the Convention's requirements.

Building on this understanding, the Recommendation lays out the various statuses women may take on in different contexts, such as: internally displaced, refugee, asylum seeker, stateless, married

when underage, and so on. Common factors taken into consideration when determining these statuses include discriminatory practices and policies that women commonly face globally, whether in relation to their access to property, or the ways in which inheritance laws and other policies still lack gender-sensitivity and are therefore not conducive to equitable socio-economic integration or equal access to educational opportunities, health services and justice within the legal system. Under such conditions, women are effectively denied participation in the prevention, mediation and reconstruction processes.

The Recommendation goes a step further and identifies the monitoring mechanisms that states must apply in order to accurately report both the challenges encountered and advancements made throughout the implementation of the Convention. To achieve this aim, the Recommendation notes that it is the

responsibility of each state to allocate adequate financial and technical resources to effectively promote and protect women's rights.

General Recommendation No. 30 has the power to become an extremely practical and widespread tool, providing detailed examples of the different obstacles women in conflict and post-conflict situations face, while warning that prevention and reconstruction efforts run a risk of failure if states continue to exclude gendered perspectives and deny women their human rights. Due to this text serving as a mere recommendation, it is not legally binding; its power, therefore, lies in its ability to encourage state actors to ratify the international instruments relevant to ensuring the protection of women's rights in conflict prevention, conflict and post-conflict, such as the Arms Trade Treaty of 2013.

CHAPTER 2.1

NATIONAL ACTION PLANS, REGIONAL ACTION PLANS, AND WOMEN'S REGIONAL ACTIVITIES

To date, the regional action plans that have proven their effectiveness in practice are mostly located in Asia and have been steadily and successfully progressing into other regions of the world. These plans provide a regional mechanism to support both transnational and domestic efforts, and a cooperative framework inclusive of values and actions that result in the enhancement of women and girls' leadership roles in conflict prevention and peacebuilding, mainstreaming gender in security policy-making, and the protection of women and girls' human rights in humanitarian crises, periods of transition and post-conflict situations. These action plans exemplify that increasing a woman's dynamic role in shaping peace agreements and laws designed to address gender-based violence and counter violent extremism in Asia can be achieved by committing to a WPS regional action plan.

BOX 3. NATIONAL ACTION PLANS: TURNING WORDS INTO ACTIONS UNDER WPS COMMITMENTS

The adoption of UNSCR 1325 on Women, Peace and Security in 2000 was a groundbreaking achievement for the inclusion of women, and recognized their vital contributions to peace and security. A WPS National Action Plan is a policy framework created by governments, regional institutions, and civil society to implement UNSCR 1325. In 2005, the UN Secretary General Special Report called on member states to create WPS National Action Plans (NAPs) detailing how they will fulfill Resolution 1325's mandate to ensure that countries follow through with their commitments. UNSCR 1325 is more than a mere collection of words highlighting the importance of women's full participation in creating durable peace and security – it is a mandate that requires governments to act. The goal of these NAPs is to produce meaningful advancements in the WPS

agenda at local and national levels with a focus on supporting specific programmes, practices, and policies that promote their inclusion.

A unique feature of WPS NAPs is that they are intended to be developed with significant input from civil society, and are formed in collaboration with relevant international actors, including partner governments and gender advisors. Civil society consultation is a key component when drafting WPS NAPs due to civil society actors playing a crucial role in monitoring their governments' implementation of the plans and ensuring they are held accountable for the commitments made.

Women, Peace and Security strives for enhanced communication between governments, multilateral organisations,

and civil society groups. A hallmark of an effective WPS NAP is stakeholder collaboration within a context-specific framework to ensure the inclusion of women in peacebuilding and politics, and of gender-specific protections from violent conflict.¹⁶

As of today, 104 UN member states (54%) have adopted NAPs, 45% had national action plans, approximately one-third of which contained a budget designed to ensure implementation. Overall, 54 countries have developed one WPS NAP, 27 have developed two, 17 have developed three, and 6 countries are in the process of implementing their fourth NAP.¹⁷

In the 20 years following the adoption of UNSCR 1325, ample progress has been made in implementing the WPS agenda and its 9 subsequent supporting resolutions; however, barriers to implementation persist. The 2015 Global Study on the Implementation of UNSCR 1325 - commissioned pursuant to UNSCR 2122 and the UN Secretary-General's 2019 report - uncovered a gap between the commitments that governments had subscribed to, and the financial support and political will available to achieve them. Despite the adoption of numerous commitments to address conflict-related sexual violence, broader political, economic and security factors inhibit enforcement, preventing the linear progress of their compliance.

Research conducted jointly by UN Women and the Council on Foreign Relations indicated that female peace-makers continue to be underrepresented. Out of all of the major peace processes that occurred worldwide between 1992 and 2018, women accounted for only 3% of mediators, 4% of signatories and 13% of negotiators. These statistics prove to be even more disappointing when considering that the International Peace Institute found in a recent report that peace agreements are 35% more likely to last at least 15 years when women participate in process.¹⁸ As for the security sector, although the proportion of women participating in the police and military contingents of UN peace operations increased from 4.2% in October 2015 to 6.5% in June 2020, this proportion is below the 8.4% target established by UNSCR 2242 for the year 2020.¹⁹

Another barrier to progress, is that conflict-related sexual violence is frequently under-reported.²⁰ Despite its slow progress, the WPS agenda appears to be a timely and emblematic representation of today's international reality with its multilevel and multidimensional complexity. This places Resolution 1325 center stage with its diverse stakeholders and integrated approach, created by an assortment of actors, and deeply-rooted in its multi-sectoral basic pillars: participation, protection, prevention, relief and recovery. Still to this day, the

16. <https://oursecurefuture.org/our-secure-future/project/national-action-plans>

17. <https://1325naps.peacewomen.org/>

18. Ibid.

19. <https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/20-years-of-women-peace-and-security>

20. <https://www.un.org/sexualviolenceinconflict/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/report/conflict-related-sexual-violence-report-of-the-united-nations-secretary-general/SG-Report-2020editedsmall.pdf>

Resolution's "transformative" potential has yet to be fully revealed, but continues to shine a light on what has until now been relegated to the shadows, and demand

that gendered perspectives and women's active participation in peace processes be actualized.

BOX 4 REGIONAL ACTION PLANS WITH EXAMPLES²¹

The development of a WPS Regional Plan of Action was one of the key recommendations of the ASEAN Regional Study on Women, Peace and Security, which was launched with the support of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and UN Women in 2021.

In recent years, the following regional action plans and strategies have been developed and set into motion around the world:

- *African Union Continental Results Framework (2018-2028)*
- *Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Regional Action Plan (2022)*
- *Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS) Regional Action Plan (RAP) for the implementation of Resolution 1325 and related Security Council resolutions (2020-2024)*
- *Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) Department of Political Affairs, Peace and Security (PAPS): Guidelines on Women, Peace and Security (2020)*
- *European Union (EU) Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security (2019-2024)*

• *International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR) Regional Action Plan for the Implementation of UNSCR 1325 (2018-2023)*

• *League of Arab States (LAS) Regional Action Plan on Women Peace and Security in the Arab Region (2015-2030)*

• *North Atlantic Treaty Organization/Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council (NATO/EAPC) Policy and Action Plan (2018)*

• *Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) 2004 Action Plan for the Promotion of Gender Equality*

• *Pacific Islands Forum Regional Action Plan (2012-2015)*

• *Southern African Development Community (SADC) Regional Strategy on Women, Peace and Security (2018-2022)*

• *The East African Community (EAC) Regional Framework on United Nations Security Council Resolution (2015-2019)*

The Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) in Eastern Africa Regional Action Plan on United Nations Security Council Resolutions 1325 (2000) and 1820 (2008). Adopted in 2013

21. <https://wpsfocalpointsnetwork.org/regional-action-plans/>

BOX 5 JOINT INITIATIVES ON THE GROUND TO ENHANCE THE IMPACT OF WPS: PROMISING PRACTICES TO INCREASE WOMEN'S PARTICIPATION IN MEDIATION AND PEACEBUILDING

NORDIC WOMEN MEDIATORS NETWORK

Rooted in UNSCR 1325 and its objective to increase women's participation in WPS, the Nordic Women Mediators Network (NWM) seeks to address the underrepresentation of women in mediation and peacebuilding. Established in 2015, the NWM functions as a collaborative forum, building upon five national networks: Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden. The NWM aims to support women's inclusion in peace processes through advocacy and at the operational level.

Each year, the NWM holds an Annual Meeting hosted by the coordinating country of that term – a responsibility that changes on a rotational basis. In November 2022, the Annual Meeting was held in Helsinki where representatives of the network gathered to discuss recent changes in the European and international security environments, and identify challenges and opportunities for mediation within the Nordic Cooperation and NWM.

Its goals are to strengthen women's participation in peace processes at all levels, including by:

- *Amplifying the voices of female mediators and peacemakers in conflict-affected areas;*
- *Advocating for all peace processes to be inclusive;*
- *Developing and fostering partnerships with other mediation and peacebuilding networks and organisations; and*

- *Creating and supporting relevant joint activities amongst members and their partners.*

NWM also seeks to empower Nordic women who are actively involved in international peacemaking efforts by:

- *Fostering the exchange of knowledge, experiences, and expertise among members, including through networking opportunities;*
- *Supporting network members within their respective functions, and drawing on their diverse areas of expertise across networks;*
- *Providing, and facilitating access to, networking opportunities with mediation and peacebuilding actors worldwide.*

MEDITERRANEAN WOMEN'S NETWORK

In January 2017, Italy joined the UN Security Council as a non-permanent member with the aim of enhancing its contribution to the effort of "building peace for tomorrow." A key component of Italy's commitment was to strengthen the role of women as drivers of peace across the whole conflict cycle. Italy acknowledged the need to foster women's participation in a key region for global peace and stability and decided to establish the Mediterranean Women Mediators Network (MWNM).

MWNM stands as one of the flagship initiatives of the Italian mandate on the UN Security Council, and combines Italy's role in the Mediterranean with its commitment

to the peaceful resolution of conflicts and promotion of equitable gender policies. The establishment of the MWNM was also included in Italy's third National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security for 2016-2019. Continuing its commitment, Italy recently renewed its support for the Network with the establishment of its fourth WPS NAP for 2020-2024. This initiative has been promoted by the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the International Cooperation in collaboration with Istituto Affari Internazionali (IAI) and Women in International Security (WIIS) Italy.

MWMN was launched in Rome on 26 October 2017 at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, where the Minister Angelino Alfano was in attendance. A multigenerational group consisting of approximately 40 women mediators and experts on mediation

came together from the four shores of the Mediterranean Sea and agreed to adopt the "Founding Principles and Declaration of Intent" of the Network.²³

Following this foundational event, the MWMN has continued to grow and welcome new members. It has conducted numerous WPS activities, ranging from in-person and virtual trainings, peer-to-peer exchanges, and advocacy and outreach campaigns. Furthermore, it has established local antennas and regularly works synergistically with other female mediator networks within the broader Global Alliance of Regional Women Mediator Networks, of which it is a founding member. As of June 2020, the MWMN Secretariat, under the stewardship of WIIS Italy, coordinates the Secretariat of the Global Alliance.²⁴

23. <https://womenmediators.net/>

24. The text is based on materials of UN Women

CHALLENGES TO NATIONAL ACTION PLANS

In a 2004 statement, the UN Security Council called upon member states to advance the implementation of UNSCR 1325 through National Action Plans or other domestic strategies. Translating international obligations into the local context and developing mechanisms to ensure effective implementation has become a promising practice for member states when designing their NAPs and fulfilling the commitments made to UNSCR 1325 under international law.

There is a great deal of similarity between the process used for designing NAPs and that of the one used for negotiating and localizing them in the national context. Based on similar components derived from the requirements of legal instruments, such as the 4Ps, many countries introduced new components when developing their second NAPs due to newly-identified needs within their countries.

Uniformity in addressing the 4Ps varies considerably in content, structure and scope. These deviations are understandable due to their reflection of each country's unique histories, capacities, and political situations. Many of the notable differences between NAPs can be explained by the various challenges they face, including factors such as: lack of political will, insufficient resources, gender bias, standard formalities during implementation phases, the absence of effective accountability mechanisms, inconsistent national coordination methods, and weak or inexperienced institutional implementation mechanisms. With these barriers in mind, many NAPs do not make the leap from theory to practice. As member states continue to engage in the process of progressive learning, opportunities for enhanced coordination and deeper, more dynamic understandings of UNSCR 1325 will be revealed.

Inclusive Security²⁵, an organization working to assist member states to develop effective NAPs, has identified several essential characteristics of strong NAPs. Democracy Today has also contributed to this list through its long history of working in peacebuilding and other aspects of WPS, both locally and in collaboration with international partners.

25. "CREATING NATIONAL ACTION PLANS: A GUIDE TO IMPLEMENTING RESOLUTION 1325 BY ZSUZSANNA LIPPAI AND ANGELIC YOUNG Inclusive Security https://www.inclusivesecurity.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/InclusiveSecurity_NAP-Guide_ME_2017.pdf

ESSENTIAL (NOMINAL) COMPONENTS

This Chapter presents a non exhaustive list of nominal components of successful NAP

Identifying responsible actors and assigning them clear roles.

The roles of the individual members of the Inter-Agency Commission must be defined, and their responsibilities within the implementation stages clearly stated. Clearly defined roles and objectives allotted for each action of the NAP assigned to every actor promotes transparency and accountability. This phase should outline which leading agents will be responsible for drafting, implementing, and monitoring and evaluating NAP commitments.

Establishing an inclusive drafting process.

An inclusive process ensures women's equal participation and equally-weighted input, enabling them to introduce new visions and objectives, which in turn enhances national action plans. This process creates the opportunity to discuss relevant issues and organize open discussions and seminars, which are often highly sought-after forums. It is important to all processes that local actors are empowered and feel more accountable for the success of these initiatives. Enhancing local institutions and increasing the availability of experts at the communal level will enhance achievement of this aim.

To ensure an inclusive drafting and implementation process, NAPs must be developed and executed with the early, transparent, and extensive engagement of a broad constituency of civil society representatives throughout all stages, including women-led civil society organizations and independent grassroots leaders. This process facilitates the introduction of key, and often contentious, WPS issues to the highest levels of governance where they may have once been absent. Similarly, inclusive WPS NAPs hold the potential to initiate further action to mainstream WPS into other local and national programmes.

Establishing coordination between priority action areas, mechanisms and agents.

Coordination between all actors, whether within the Inter-Agency Commission or in the field, lays the primary foundation for an effectively operational NAP.

Assigning an agency (or agencies) to oversee implementation.

A mixed Monitoring and Evaluation Commission with a strictly defined evaluation schedule will be considered more expedient in achieving outcomes. Although both national governments and civil society actors are equally responsible for developing, implementing, and monitoring and evaluating UN WPS resolutions, civil society plays a critical role in holding governments accountable by monitoring the implementation of programmes.

Taking a holistic approach.

A majority of the first NAPs, developed throughout numerous countries, structured their programmes around Resolution 1325's 4Ps (participation, conflict prevention, protection, relief and recovery) in concert in order to complement one another and enhance impact. The programmes under each pillar describe local needs and are context-specific; the content of the pillars will therefore differ, and should clearly operationalise objectives by identifying the concrete actions required to achieve their assigned goals. The common factor shared by all NAPs, however, is that the 4Ps guide their primary themes; therefore, the four WPS NAP pillars should be designed to effectively transform global WPS commitments at the local country level by matching local contexts and priorities.

Maintaining both internal and external focus.

A country that has no first-hand experience with recent conflict, such as Norway, Italy, and Finland, will often prioritize NAP activities based on UN peacekeeping missions in conflict and post-conflict countries, or designate special WPS programmes in conflict recovery areas, therefore making them more externally-focused. A conflict-affected country's NAP, on the other hand, such as Armenia, focuses more on activities within their own borders, such as capacity-building initiatives with local communities to provide psycho-social support and trauma management counseling, or actions to assist vulnerable and war-affected populations such as forcibly displaced women and communities with high influxes of displaced persons.

Creating timelines.

Defining clear implementation timelines for each activity, supported by practical monitoring and evaluation mechanisms, is critically important for achieving effective outputs. Timelines should always contain a margin of error to allow for some flexibility, depending on the situation on the ground.

Prioritizing the prevention policies.

From regulating the arms trade, to disarmament, to educational programmes on early warning signs and early response plans of action, NAPs must always prioritise the prevention of conflict and violence.

Making objectives measurable.

NAPs must include clearly and realistically measurable indicators with expected outputs with details on how they will be achieved within set timeframes, and within a particular budget. Indicators should be S.M.A.R.T: specific, measurable, attainable, realistic, and time-bound.

Designing transparent monitoring and evaluation systems.

NAPs should be designed to enable the installation of independent and transparent monitoring and evaluation mechanisms. NAPs should include clear and concrete

indicators to promote accountability by strengthening monitoring and evaluation capacities.

Reporting.

A comprehensive monitoring and evaluation framework is critical to successfully implementing a NAP. Progress reports produced by meticulous monitoring and evaluation mechanisms assist in the production of accurate performance assessment and aid in planning for future developments and revisions.

Securing funds.

The capacity to implement, monitor, and finance NAPs varies significantly between nations, many of which are particularly limited by an inadequate budget. Governments and civil society actors must therefore do everything in their power to find creative ways to secure grants and allocate national funds in order to achieve their commitments.

Allocating funds.

Once funding has been secured, NAPs should detail a dedicated budget to ensure that their goals are translated into action. Currently, very few NAPs contain a dedicated budget, instead preferring to estimate their budget year by year without specifically earmarking funds within the plans. A lack of financial resources serves as a major barrier to the successful implementation of NAPs; without financial resources and a transparent process to track funds, Women, Peace and Security issues remain under-funded and under-implemented.

Monitoring by Civil Society.

Most NAPs provide reference to an annual meeting held with civil society actors and relevant government ministries, and/or to an annual monitoring report. Maintaining consistent monitoring efforts is necessary to ensure the transparency of NAP processes.

Ensuring the continuity of successful processes.

NAPs must build upon the previous achievements of gender equality and women's empowerment programmes to continue this momentum and ensure their continued progress.

Coordinating tasks with commissions working to protect the rights of women and adolescents, and other human rights and social protections.

The Inter-Agency Commission on Actions against Trafficking, Violence Against Women, and the Commission on the Rights of the Child must coordinate to enhance impact and mainstream protection of the rights of women and their promotion to meaningful positions.

Enhancing human security.

By strengthening access to programmes that empower women, this reinforces wide-

spread access to the protection of women's rights, and develops additional measures to protect women from violence.

Going beyond the four pillars.

Following the first NAP, the second (and in some countries, the third) go beyond designing their programmes around the four basic pillars, and introduce creative new approaches and ideas, even dedicating separate chapters to them; for example: cooperation between foreign and local organisations and assistance to countries in conflict. Some nations go as far as introducing other WPS resolutions as part of their NAPs, and design actions to fulfill these additional commitments.

Introducing the concept of a “living” and “dynamic” document.

Defining the timelines and agencies responsible for implementation is important for effective monitoring and reporting, but equally important, is introducing the concept of a “living document.” In an ever-changing world with volatile circumstances and nations fluctuating between war and peace, the introduction of this concept is crucial to effectively understanding, respecting, and addressing the needs of a community's daily lives. With a fixed NAP, it is not easy to allow for the flexibility required to meet emerging needs; the flexibility of a “living document” allows the state to introduce new items to the NAP to make it more responsive to emergency situations. This concept also serves to make NAPs more impact-oriented since it would be ineffective to design responsibilities for the Inter-Agency Commission's individual bodies if their functionality goes unchecked. In some situations, the agency assigned to a particular action does not have the institutional capacity, knowledge, or funding to implement the assigned activity; therefore, providing frequent capacity assessments and designing NAPs with the flexibility to enhance them will further strengthen NAP implementation.

Mainstreaming WPS through other programmes.

This actions seeks to improve the evaluation of policy processes so that a WPS perspective is incorporated into policies at all levels, and at all stages, by the actors normally involved in policy-making.

The boxes below illustrate key concepts and promising practices, as well as necessary components for Local Action Plans

BOX 6: Localisation: Translating Global Obligations into Local Contexts. What is the “Localisation” of the Women, Peace, and Security Agenda? New Initiatives on localization in Armenia?

National Actions Plans can be viewed as processes of localization where each country translates the conceptual framework of Resolution 1325 into their local contexts. Through years of experience working on the Resolution, it has been recognized that NAPs are better tailored to the needs of each community through the strengthened collaboration and recognition of the roles of actors in the field as well as through gaining a better understanding of the social fabric, culture, and political and economic realities of a given population. Localization therefore strengthens the NAP and enables it to become a real tool for transformation.

Localisation is a dynamic and creative process specific to each region: this process reflects local needs and the roles of native actors in promoting the WPS agenda, and provides them the opportunity to take on decisive roles. While NAPs are important at the state level, localisation processes make NAP components better suited to address the particular needs of a given community. It is recommended that communities develop their own Local Action Plans to supplement the NAP.

Local Action Plans (LAPs) translate the written obligations of a state into actions in the field. LAPs supplement and solidify actions at the community level. It is an ever-changing and organic process

addressing specific community needs in a timely manner. The localisation of WPS is critical due to its more immediate and tangible impacts on people’s day-to-day lives. Conflict and violence (as well as peace) ultimately occur at the local level. While national-level politics and peace negotiations can provide a critical framework for achieving peace, everyday people often feel far-removed from these processes and do not feel represented at the national level.

LAPs empower women and strengthen their positions of leadership in the field in addition to establishing strong collaborative frameworks centered on peace and security within communities. The development of LAPs translates broad national-level policies into smaller issues like improving local security needs, rebuilding war-torn homes, or making specific institutions more accountable. LAPs do not solely focus on hard security at the border; they also address human security issues in villages and towns. As communities rebuild systems and infrastructure that has been eroded or destroyed by conflict, herein lies an opportunity to integrate more intersectional perspectives that not only promote peace, but ensure the inclusion of women and other marginalized groups so that everyone’s experiences of peace can be woven together.²⁶

26. Localizing WPS agenda in the OSCE region, <https://eca.unwomen.org/en/news/stories/2020/7/localizing-the-women-peace-and-security-agenda-in-the-osce-region>

Necessary Components When Creating and Maintaining Strong Local Action Plans

1) Strong cooperation must be built between local groups, individuals, and institutions. This not only brings together female civil society leaders, but also local authorities, such as mayors, local councils, police officers, educators, and healthcare workers so that their voices and concerns can be heard. For many women, this may be their first time engaging in a formal process where they sit amongst local authorities and identify existing problems, analyses why things are not working, and provide recommendations on how to improve the status quo. Some of their most pressing concerns often include: domestic violence, economic insecurity, poor infrastructure, and a special focus on de-mining. Strong community cooperation enhances community cohesion, which is why it is so important for it to be developed and maintained in conflict-affected areas.

2) LAPs invest in deepening a culture of respect for each other's opinions, and supports the exchange of information and new perspectives through community forums. These meetings are important to strengthening the community and healing post-war pains. They involve many tense and challenging conversations, often made more difficult by pain, hurt, and trauma, but these discussions at the village, town, and municipal levels are necessary to support reconciliation efforts and good governance practices that contribute to peace. This connection between LAPs and peacebuilding is an important one – research has shown again and again how the inclusion of women supports more durable and long-lasting peace. Learning

from women at the frontlines of these communities will ideally offer lessons for the rest of the global community in order to continue building sustainable peace.

While local efforts are beginning to gain traction, much of the emphasis (and funding) still remains at the national level. As another major milestone in the WPS agenda is celebrated and reflection can take place on past experiences and feminist futures, there is an opportunity to take stock of the current approaches and identify ways forward that not only integrate together, but prioritize WPS work at the municipal level. Armenia has an excellent track record of working in rural communities with local actors, organising awareness-raising and educational campaigns, and mobilising for enhanced cooperation.

Recommendations for Strengthening Cooperation between Local and National Groups:

- 1. Develop plans that directly fund women's grassroots organisations and the implementation of the four pillars of UNSC Resolution 1325;*
- 2. Establish strong collaboration with grassroots women's organizations and promote their initiatives and priorities;*
- 3. Organise the robust coordination, reporting, and dissemination of Resolution 1325's mechanisms, including for grassroots women's work, and issues across all domains of the WPS priorities;*
- 4. Track women's involvement in the four pillars (participation, prevention, protection, relief and recovery) by applying an intersectional lens to ensure that all*

women are included in WPS activities, including across intersecting factors such as gender, religion, age, location, ethnicity, education, and disability. This data will allow researchers and policy-makers to understand which women and organisations receive funding and are engaged in planning and implementing WPS NAPs and Resolution 1325 commitments. Such data can ultimately be used to further diversify women's participation.²⁷

ROLE OF THE OSCE IN LOCALISING NAPs

The OSCE, who has been a strong supporter of localizing NAPs, conducted an analysis of the different approaches taken by its member states when localising WPS processes to fit the individual needs of each state. While respondents viewed localization as a positive step in theory, many were skeptical of its implications and efficacy in practice. For example, in Moldova, initial WPS localization workshops have been held, including in the Autonomous Territorial Unit of Gagauzia. More sustained and systematic localization efforts have been made in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia and Ukraine. For example, Bosnia and Herzegovina has already piloted LAPs in several municipalities. In Serbia, localisation has been stated as an explicit aim within its second NAP, and in Ukraine, regions (oblasts) identified in their NAP as implementing agencies have been tasked to develop oblast-level action plans. The development of oblast action plans has been supported by external partners, including the OSCE, UN Women and the

Global Network of Women Peacebuilders (GNWP).

In 2016, the OSCE supported localization processes in Serbia by organising public consultations for a second NAP in six towns across the country in collaboration with the Serbian government's Office for Co-operation with Civil Society and the Standing Conference of Towns and Municipalities. The OSCE then went on to continue supporting WPS capacity-building initiatives in 2018 by presenting the NAP to 25 municipal representatives.

Depending on location, grassroots women's organisations and other CSOs have been active in developing their own plans on issues related to domestic violence/ intimate partner violence, small arms, and migration. At the local, self-governing level, committees on gender equality and security are in key positions to develop and implement local action plans; however, they often lacked the capacities, funding, and external support necessary to conduct these tasks. Nevertheless, several LAPs have been successfully developed, including in the cities of Niš, Tutin, and Pirot, with the latter town earning special mention by several respondents for serving as a prime example for future LAPs.

SIX AVENUES OF LOCALISATION

NAP Localisation can be achieved through different pathways, each with their own benefits and drawbacks; some of these options include:

1. Developing a WPS action plan independently from, "the ground up," based on localised gender and security analyses;

27. Based on the review of the materials of UN Woman

2. Implementing the NAP with a top-down approach carried out by the local structures of national ministries

3. Integrating locally implementable activities into national-level plans;

4. Copying activities from national action plans and adapting these to the local context;

5. Integrating relevant WPS activities into existing or broader local gender equality implementation plans;

6. Implementing individual projects relevant to WPS, but not directly tying them to a plan.²⁸

BOX 7 HUMAN SECURITY AS AN ESSENTIAL COMPONENT OF WPS

National security aims to ensure the ability of states to protect their citizens from external aggression; human security focuses on managing threats and challenges that affect people everywhere - inside, outside, and across state lines.

What is Human Security?

“All individuals are entitled to freedom from fear, freedom from want, and the freedom to live in dignity, and the global community, including each individual country, must prioritise building a world that secures these essential freedoms.”²⁹

Fear, Want, and Human Dignity

Achieving human security means that populations are free from the fear of conflict and terrorism, crime, intolerance against ethnic or religious minorities, natural disasters, infectious diseases, and other threats, as well as free from want due to circumstances such as poverty, malnutrition, or poor education or health. Since natural disasters, for example, exacerbate poverty, and poverty raises

the risk of violent conflict, “freedom from fear” and “freedom from want” are inextricably linked and require holistic responses. Furthermore, human security aims to create a society where people not only survive, but where the capabilities of individuals and communities can be developed to realise their freedoms and potentials; in other words, a society that ensures one’s right to live in dignity.

Human security “is a concept that gained attention in 1994, when it was introduced by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in its Human Development Report (HDR). In 2003, the Commission on Human Security combined their work into a report entitled, “Human Security Now.” Sadako Osaka, one of the Co-Chairs at the time, became president of the Japanese International Cooperation Agency (JICA) soon thereafter. Since then, JICA has carried out its programmes with the aim of transforming human security into a reality.”

Although more than 25 years have passed

29. Japanese Agency for International Development, <https://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/oda/white/2007/ODA2007/html/honpen/hp102030000.htm>

since the term “human security” made its first appearance in UNDP’s HDR, its global importance has only continued to increase. The COVID-19 pandemic, for example, directly threatens the lives of millions and continues to force growing numbers of people into desperate situations, especially those facing protracted social or economic hardships.

Nations must also remain vigilant regarding the rise of new and increasingly complex threats, such as widening inequalities, noncommunicable diseases (NCDs), health and social protection challenges posed by aging societies, frequent and severe natural disasters (accelerated by climate change), a deepening digital divide, the adverse impacts of the advancement of science and technology on society, and the suppression of freedoms and human rights. Recognising these serious threats to human security, JICA prioritises building societies where people are free of fear and want and can live with dignity.

Responding to New Challenges

JICA is currently implementing a range of activities in response to the renewed importance and modern-day needs of human security in today’s global context. When the idea of human security first emerged in the 1990’s, conflicts were rampant, resulting in a ballooning number of refugees and displaced persons. Consequently, human security was most often referenced within contexts linked to conflicts and refugees; however, in the long-term, preventing the recurrence of conflicts is also a predominant priority of human security and requires fostering a culture of reconciliation and establishing

the rule of law. Improvements in poverty reduction, healthcare, and education are also essential if people are to live in dignity. This will require the establishment and upkeep of basic infrastructure, such as clean water, the construction of roads, connecting communities to electrical grids, and other similar initiatives. In order to minimize the impact of natural disasters to both communal infrastructure and individuals, it is essential to prioritise disaster risk reduction (DRR) activities to safeguard populations.

In addition to these areas of concern, unless the digital divide is addressed through better quality education and capacity building, human security cannot be actualised. Despite its pitfalls, the digital era also enables new solutions, such as through IT-based innovations and streamlined collaboration with a diverse range of partners around the world to respond to issues that were once more difficult and time-consuming to resolve. For example, the Maternal and Child Health Handbook for refugees and displaced people is now available as a smartphone app, which has become a convenient tool for accessing and protecting data. Smartphones and drones are also used to provide medical services to remote areas that may have not been reachable otherwise. These new technological solutions continue to aid organisations and governments alike in accelerating the achievement of human security.

Guiding Principles

In order to protect the “life, livelihood and dignity” of each individual, JICA has set forth two guiding principles; the first, is:

“empowering individuals, organisations, and societies to increase their capabilities.” It goes without saying that people in developing countries are not those in need of permanent assistance, nor are they weak individuals who need to be protected from harm; they have the ability to act on their own behalves and to represent their societies. One must focus on developing the potential of individuals, their organisations, and their communities, so that they may address their problems locally.

JICA’s second guiding principle, “building resilient societies (systems) that can protect themselves against various threats,” exemplifies why the Cooperation places a heavy emphasis on “prevention.” For example, to reduce the spread of infectious diseases, preventative initiatives are encouraged, such as hand-washing and mask-wearing. To prevent conflicts from reoccurring, JICA supports nurturing a culture of mutual understanding and reconciliation that transcends religious and ethnic divides through activities such as athletic exchanges. To minimize the impact of natural disasters, it is necessary that communities are able to build levees, improve the accuracy of forecasts, and conduct evacuation drills. Focusing on prevention protects populations by creating societies equipped to minimize damages, and allows them to recover more quickly when disaster strikes.

These principles are reflected within the various cooperations undertaken by JICA. By looking at the different severity levels of possible threats, it is clearly evident who faces threats to their lives, livelihoods, or human dignity. Such analyses can

supplement data produced at the country-level, and reveals the people with the most urgent needs. In order to protect basic freedoms and human dignity, it is imperative that society as a whole, along with the international community, works together to create systems to protect people from threats and to strengthen the capacity of institutions so that people, organisations and societies can support one another.

A number of conditions are required in order to “live in dignity;” they include: better nutrition, education, a hygienic environment, economic stability, social security, and the rule of law. Numerous challenges, such as poverty, health, hygiene, and education, can overlap to further deprive people of their freedoms and potentials. Therefore, to achieve human security, an integrated approach is needed to counter these varying combinations of adverse circumstances; it is an approach that goes beyond merely thinking of solutions for each sector individually, and requires cohesive partnership with a range of organisations and experts across multiple sectors.

The international community is working together to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). JICA is guided by the principles of human security while working on the SDGs, and has focused on individuals by making efforts to strengthen people’s abilities to address challenges on their own, and contribute to the creation of systems that can respond to a range of known and emerging threats. (Based on Japanese International Cooperation Agency materials).³⁰

30. Japanese Agency for International Development, <https://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/oda/white/2007/ODA2007/html/honpen/hp102030000.htm>

In 2017, the PRIO Centre on Gender, Peace and Security and the Georgetown Institute for Women, Peace and Security developed a new global index providing a comprehensive measure of women's well-being.³¹ The Women, Peace, and Security Index offers a simple and transparent method of measurement that captures women's autonomy and empowerment in the home, within their communities, and in the broader scope of society. The WPS Index is the first gender index to include a focus on women's security, bringing together three dimensions: inclusion, justice, and security.

Box 8. The Importance of Measuring Progress: Women, Peace and Security Index

The second edition of the Index was successfully launched at the United Nations Headquarters in New York on 22 October 2019. The Index provides important insights into patterns and progresses to women's well-being and empowerment around the world, and reflects a shared vision that countries are more peaceful and prosperous when women are accorded full and equal rights and opportunities. While just two years have passed since the inaugural WPS Index was published, several major insights can be drawn from recent trends. One such revelation, was that there have been significant advances in the well-being of women around the world, but that progress is still moving too slowly and unevenly across sectors and regions. An analysis of these changes over time revealed the key drivers of progress as well as major areas of concern.

On a positive note, the world is generally moving in a positive direction: as of 2017, every region of the world included at least one country that outperformed the global average. While as many as 59 states improved by five percent or more compared to their 2017 scores, only one country, (Yemen), declined by more than

five percent. As of 2019, Norway ranked first, followed closely by Switzerland, Finland and Sweden. At the bottom of the list, were Yemen, Afghanistan and Syria.

Why Make a WPS Index?

Women are at the heart of the efforts to achieve sustainable peace through inclusion, justice, and security worldwide. This notion was explicitly stated within the agenda established by UNSC Resolution 1325 in the year 2000. The agenda urged all actors to increase women's participation and incorporate gender perspectives into all UN peace and security efforts. In 2016, the United Nations General Assembly and the United Nations Security Council adopted resolutions on "sustaining peace", which have since been hailed as a transformative shift from peacebuilding to sustainable peace as "a goal and a process to build a common vision of society." The Sustaining Peace Agenda complements the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which recognises the need to build inclusive, just, and peaceful societies for all. Global indices are a way to assess and compare a nation's progress against such goals by

31. Women, peace and security index, <https://giwps.georgetown.edu/the-index/>

distilling an array of complex information into a single number and ranking. While there are a growing number of global indices, none have combined the three important dimensions of women's inclusion, justice, and security. Gender indices are typically limited to inclusion indicators, such as whether women complete secondary school or receive payment for their work. Although these aspects are undoubtedly important to the overall assessment of the status of women's equality, this assessment remains incomplete in the absence of the statuses of justice and security. For example, it is misleading to focus exclusively on girls' schooling where girls are not safe within their homes or communities; likewise, traditional measures of security include an array of conflict indicators and assessments, but invariably ignore systematic bias and discrimination against women and girls.

The Index is an important tool for many sectors: policymakers may use its rankings to evaluate progress and set priorities; the private sector can use it to conduct risk analyses; and civil society activists can celebrate achievements, highlight gaps, and hold their governments accountable for implementing the WPS agenda.

The Global Women, Peace and Security Index, 2017/2018

The first edition of the WPS Index was structured around three basic dimensions of women's well-being: inclusion, justice, and security. It ranks 153 countries and covers more than 98 percent of the world's population. The index was launched on 26 October 2017 in New York as a side-event to the UN Security Council Open Debate on Women, Peace and Security.

Innovations to the Second Edition of the WPS Index

The second edition of the WPS Index added more than a dozen additional countries, including Libya and South Sudan, which met the minimum requirements based on recent and reliable data gathered across the three dimensions. Several improvements have enhanced the value of the 2021 Index:

1) Advancements in data availability expanded coverage to 167 countries – encompassing more than 98 percent of the world's population. This provided access to data on the prevalence of intimate partner violence (IPV) over the last 12 months in place of data capturing solely women's lifetime's worth of IPV experiences. This change allowed the fluctuations of the prevalence of violence to be tracked over time.

2) Data revisions and updates from the International Labour Organization, the United Nations, the World Bank, and other official sources continued to ensure the reliability of the data on which the Index was based.

3) Data assessments at the subnational level took place for three of the world's most populous and diverse countries: China, India, and Nigeria. Their subnational indices revealed enormous diversity behind the national scores. This disparity was most prominent in Nigeria, where the gap between the state-level scores and women's corresponding well-being were equivalent to the differences between Mauritius (ranking 60th) and Afghanistan (166th).

Recently, the third edition of the Index was

published, covering the years 2021-2022. This edition provides important insights into the patterns and progresses made related to the status and empowerment of women around the world. The new edition reflects a shared vision that countries are more peaceful and prosperous when women are accorded full and equal rights and opportunities. In many ways, the 2019 report already seems like a lifetime away following the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, making the goal of this year to capture insights related to the repercussions of women's inclusion and security initiated by the pandemic. The results are sobering: the global pace of improvement relative to the WPS Index has slowed considerably with widening disparities taking place across numerous countries; this reflects an increase in women's inequality as countries at the top continue to improve, and those at the bottom worsen, mirroring global trends in wealth and income inequalities. The COVID-19 pandemic has triggered multiple overlapping crises, magnifying existing inequalities. For women, major challenges have worsened on several fronts - no least of which including juggling paid jobs and unpaid domestic labour - and have exacerbated threats to safety. Key innovations this year have enhanced the value of the Index, including:

1) Improvements in data availability that have expanded coverage to 170 countries, encompassing more than 99 percent of the world's population. Trends across regions, indicators, and time have now been explored following the initial 2017 Index rankings;

2) New indices that have been constructed to account for forcibly displaced and host community women in five Sub-Saharan African countries to illuminate the challenges facing displaced women as this phenomenon has increased at unprecedented levels worldwide. The results revealed deep disparities, underscoring the compounding effects of displacement on women's statuses and opportunities.

3) Investigations of WPS Index performance that took place at the provincial or state levels in Afghanistan, Pakistan, and United States revealing major disparities within their country's borders that national averages had once concealed. Afghanistan's ranking at the bottom of the global index is especially relevant at a time when Afghan women and girls face major threats to their basic human rights and overall well-being. Democracy Today's analysis revealed a precarious situation in many provinces where women and girls were already experiencing severe constraints on their opportunities outside of the home, and extremely high rates of violence. Tracking the progress of women and pinpointing persistent structural gender inequalities is critical to informing equitable policymaking, especially in efforts to build back better in the wake of COVID-19. This year's report is an important contribution to the growing evidence-base underlining the importance of women, peace, and security and the Sustainable Development Goals, bringing partners together around a shared agenda for women's inclusion, justice, and security.

CHAPTER 3

THE FIRST ARMENIAN NATIONAL ACTION PLAN ON WOMEN, PEACE AND SECURITY

In February 2019, the Armenian government approved the first National Action Plan for the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1325, thus making Armenia the 80th UN member state to adopt a NAP. Similarly to many other parts of the world, the adoption of the NAP has been strongly supported by civil society, and a number of consultations have been organized between government representatives and civil society organisations with the aim of building common strategies and directions on implementing the provisions of the Resolution.

In April 2020, according to the decision of the Prime Minister, an interagency commission for the implementation and monitoring of the National Action Plan was established. The composition of the commission was approved to be composed of the representatives of:

- the Prime Minister's Office;
- the Ministry of Foreign Affairs;
- the Ministry of Defense, Ministry of Justice;
- the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs;
- the Ministry of Economic Development and Investments;
- the Ministry of Emergency Situations;
- the Ministry of Territorial Administration and Development;
- the Police of the Republic of Armenia;
- the National Institute of Education of the Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sport;
- the State Migration Service of the Ministry of Territorial Administration and Development;
- the Armenian Red Cross Society; and
- relevant local NGO's.

Responsibility for the NAP's activity coordination and development has since been assigned to the Head of the Human Rights and Humanitarian Issues Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Importantly, the NAP also stipulated that civil society actors had been assigned an equal role in the commission for the very first time, and were designated as "co-executors" with the responsibility of implementing activities for 10 of its 18 total objectives. To reinforce this, objectives two and seven under the "participation" pillar directly outline its goal to "promote cooperation between

governmental bodies, women's organizations, and women affected by conflicts." Armenia's first NAP is scheduled to cover a timeframe from 2019-2021. Similar to the NAPs of many other countries, its structure and activities have been built around Resolution 1325's four pillar architecture of Participation – Protection – Prevention – Relief and Recovery. The NAP also focuses on goals to increase women's participation in, and awareness of, the protection of women's rights within the defense system, including within the military, police, and peacekeeping missions. Some of these activities have already been conducted with the help of governmental ministries, civil society actors, and international organisations such as UNFPA and the Council of Europe.

The information presented in the boxes below detail select activities that the government of Armenia has initiated to implement its first NAP on WPS:

BOX 9. PROVIDING ASSISTANCE TO SYRIAN AND IRAQI REFUGEES AND ORGANIZING PROGRAMMED FOR WOMEN AND THEIR FAMILIES WITHIN BORDER COMMUNITIES

The NAP placed a particular emphasis on creating comprehensive programmes to address the needs of women and girls who are displaced, or otherwise impacted, as a result of conflict, and has developed comprehensive programmes to address a range of issues, including economic empowerment. According to decision N65-A of the government of Armenia on 8 February 2019, a programme³⁵ was approved to focus on the expansion of economic opportunities for women and the creation of favourable conditions for the realisation of "equal rights for women and men." While the NAP of UNSCR 1325 is a tool designed to advance women, peace and security, it also addresses the

needs of refugee women from conflict-affected communities in Iraq and Syria, and introduces complex initiatives to provide educational, social, and economic empowerment programmes to women living on the borders of Armenia. The programmes cover the diverse needs that women and their families have, ranging from monthly allowances to cover utility expenditures, to providing lump sums³⁶ to families displaced by the 44-Day War.³⁷ Others programmes were designed for the representatives of the border communities and are mostly related to affordable, agricultural loans and support to local businesses.³⁸

35. The Government of the Republic of Armenia. 2019. "The Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sport of the Republic of Armenia." The program of the Government of the Republic of Armenia. February 8. <https://escs.am/files/files/2019-07-04/5003e2b78af5971bc47cf58e77be23ad.pdf>.

36. Government of RA. 2020. Support projects. <https://www.gov.am/am/support-measures/>.

37. Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan. 2021. "The Origins of the 44-Day War," an article authored by Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan. January 04.

38. Prime Minister of RA. n.d. The range of support measures for families in border communities will be expanded. the government approved the state assistance program for housing affordability. <https://www.primeminister.am/hy/press-release/item/2022/06/09/Cabinet-meeting/>.

BOX 10. THE INCREASING ROLE OF WOMEN IN POLITICS

In recent years, women's participation in various areas of governance has grown in Armenia, with more and more women securing seats in the government, National Assembly, and Parliament, and winning elections in local authorities. It is important to note that such major changes to women's political participation mostly took place due to the quota system secured by the country's Electoral Code.³⁹ The presence of a higher number of women in different governmental entities, however, demolishes harmful stereotypes and creates positive societal attitudes towards women in the Armenian Parliament.

Over a ten year period from 2012-2022, the number of female Parliamentarians has more than tripled, growing from 10.7% to 36%, respectively. In the judiciary, 82 of 262 judges (31%) are now comprised

of women, and one in nine constitutional judges (11%). Within Armenia's executive authority, the number of women appointed has doubled from 2012-2022, but still remains at less than 16% of the governing body's composition, with only 2 female ministers out of the 12 currently serving. When it comes to diplomacy, a slight decrease in female participation was recorded for 2022 compared to 2021, with the number of diplomatic staff (including heads of departments and divisions) shifting from a demographic composition of 91 women and 86 men in 2021, to 84 women and 81 men in 2022. The number of female ambassadors, on the other hand, did not experience a noticeable difference between 2020 and 2021, with six female ambassadors compared to 36 of their male counterparts.⁴⁰

BOX 11. PROMOTING AND INCLUDING WOMEN IN THE DEFENSE SECTOR

Armenia's first NAP addressed the increased role of women in the defense sector and introduced numerous policy and legislative changes to achieve this. The following section outlines the changes made in order to increase women's inclusion and enhance their professional development opportunities within the defense system:

The rights of Armenian women serving in the military sector are protected by both local legislation and international statutes. Among them, include:

- *The National Strategy for Human Rights Protection⁴¹, which aims to promote the engagement of women in the armed forces;*
- *Guidelines for the Protection of Women's Rights and Ensuring Equal Opportunities in*

39. Armenian Legal Information System. n.d. Electoral Code of The Republic of Armenia. https://www.arlis.am/Annexes/5/Electoral_Code_anglaren.pdf.

40. Source MFA

41. Government of RA. 2019. "NATIONAL STRATEGY FOR HUMAN RIGHTS PROTECTION (Governmental decree N 1978-L)." Ministry of Justice (MoJ). December 26. https://www.moj.am/storage/uploads/01Appendix_1.pdf.

the RA Defense System, which strategises ways to create better living and working conditions for women in the military;⁴² and

•The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW)⁴³ and UNSCR 1325's National Action Plan,⁴⁴ which contain specific provisions to strengthen women's involvement in the armed forces through the implementation of activities within the framework of Resolution 1325's "participation" pillar.

Nevertheless, the greatest achievement of the last decade was the acceptance of women into formal, military education programmes. The Military Aviation Institute and Vazgen Sargsyan Military University opened their doors to female cadets in 2013 and 2014 respectively. Due to this

change, the number of women in the armed forces grew by more than 42% by 2017. In September 2021, the Minister of Defense ordered the creation of a female-only servicemen troop within the Armed Forces in order to expand women's participation therein.⁴⁵

Armenia shares the United Nations' vision to enhance the participation of women in uniform in peacekeeping missions and is prepared to increase the number of women in Armenian contingents involved in such missions, carried out under the auspices of the UN.⁴⁶ Currently, the servicemen of the female peacekeeping platoon, within the Armenian peacekeeping contingent, are involved in UNIFIL, KFOR,⁴⁷ and the "Resolute Support" peacekeeping missions.⁴⁸

42. Council of Europe, Ministry of Defence of RA. n.d. National Projects (Human rights and women in the Armed Forces in Armenia – Phase II). <https://www.coe.int/en/web/yerevan/human-rights-and-women-in-the-armed-forces-in-armenia-phase-ii>.

43. United Nations. 1979. "Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women." Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights. <https://www.ohchr.org/en/professionalinterest/pages/cedaw.aspx>.

44. Government of the Republic of Armenia. 2022. "Approval of the second national action plan of The Republic of Armenia for 2022-2024 of United Nations Security Council resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security and its implementation schedule." https://gnwp.org/wp-content/uploads/Armenia-1325-NAP_EnglishFinal.pdf.

45. Ministry of Defense 2022. "The report on the progress and results of the programs implemented in the field of defense in 2021 was presented." RA National Assembly. http://www.parliament.am/news.php?do=view&cat_id=2&day=15&month=03&year=2022&NewsID=16265&lang=arm.

46. Gulnara Shahinian, Anna Ishkhanyan. 2021. Assessment report on the implementation of the NAP on UNSCR 1325 in the Republic of Armenia. report, Yerevan: Democracy Today NGO

47. NATO's Kosovo Force (Kosovo, KFOR)

48. United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon carried out under the auspices of the UN in Lebanon

BOX 12. WPS INDEX ARMENIA

According to the Women, Peace and Security index of Georgetown University⁴⁹ Republic of Armenia is ranked at 85 out of 170 and its index is standing at 0.727 (data of 2021). The index presents the cumulative result of the country in regards to Women, Peace and Security and includes Inclusion, Justice and Security sections.

As regards to inclusion, Armenia is standing at 11.2 years in the category of Education, which captures the average number of years of education for women aged 25 and older. Furthermore, the financial inclusion presents the data of 40.9%. The data on employment which reflects women's economic opportunities that are critically important and central for the realization of women's rights and capabilities, the country is standing at 33.8%. The use of cell phone by the women, which is increasingly recognized as core to people's opportunities to participate in the economy, society, and politics presents the steady growth and according to the data of 2021 is of 94.5%. The last, but one of the most important categories of the inclusion is female parliamentary representation and is the most widely available measure of women's political participation shows quite big improvement from 9.9% in 2017 to 22.7% in 2021.

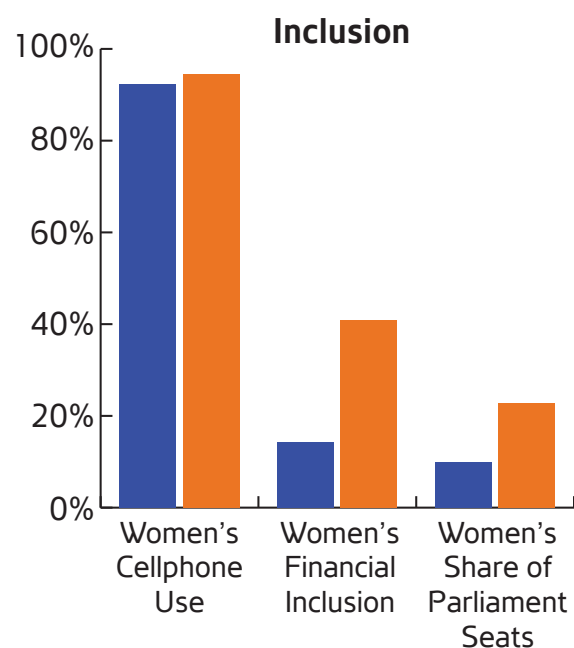
The Justice section of the index highlights the absence of legal discrimination which shows the result of 82.5% for Armenia.

Next is sex ratio at birth which reflects a preference for boys, and indicates serious discrimination against and for Armenia presents a number of 1.1. It is followed by discriminatory norms which capture discrimination against women in economic opportunities and the world of paid work which stands at 17% for the country.

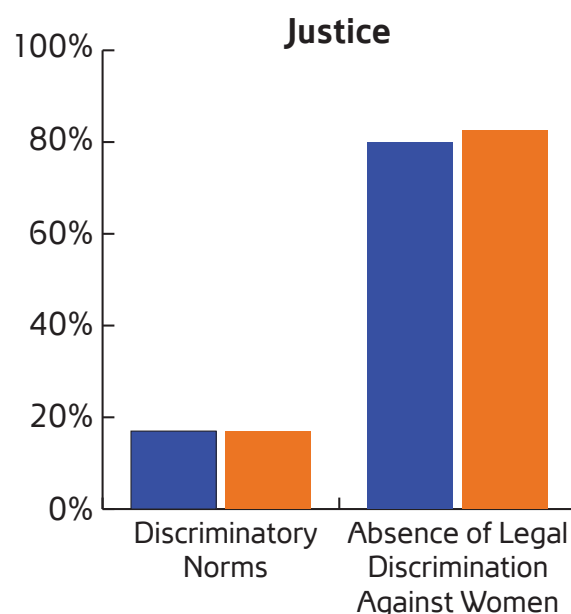
Under the Security section of the index, the first indicator is intimate partner violence which captures the percentage of women who experienced physical or sexual violence committed by their intimate partner in the previous 12 months. In this category Armenia is standing at 5% and is close to the best result in the group. Next is perception of community safety, as security and safety in the community affect women's mobility and opportunities outside the home. The index captures the percentage of women ages 15 years and older who report that they "feel safe walking alone at night in the city or area where you live. For this category, Armenia presented a steady growth in 2021 (87.3%) in comparison with the data of 2017 (78.9%). The last category of Security section is organized violence which captures the extent of insecurity in society due to armed conflict. The Index tracks the total number of battle deaths from state-based, non-state, and one-sided conflicts per 100,000. In this category Armenia went from 0.11 in 2017 to 0.2 in 2021.

49. Armenia's Performance on the. 2021. Armenia's Performance on the Women, Peace, and Security Index. <https://giwps.georgetown.edu/country/armenia/>.

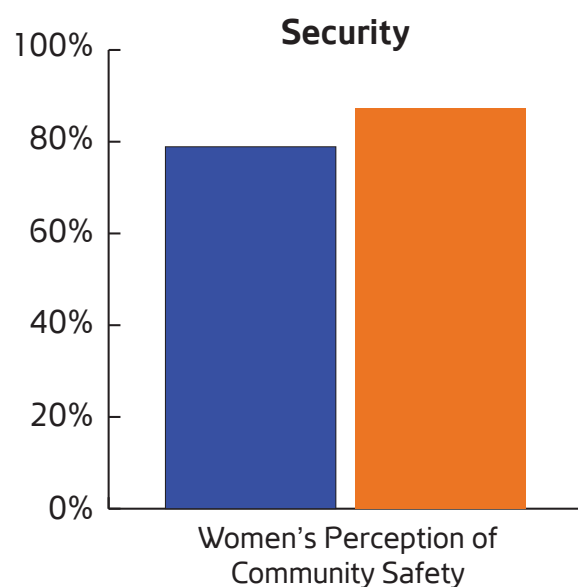
WPS INDEX ARMENIA



■ Armenia 2017 ■ Armenia 2021



■ Armenia 2017 ■ Armenia 2021



■ Armenia 2017 ■ Armenia 2021

Armenia's NAP was designed to include components of the WPS agenda's international implementation strategy, particularly in light of the ongoing Nagorno-Karabakh conflict. Going a step further, the plan specifically states that Armenia considers the NAP to be, "a national mechanism for the protection and promotion of women's rights in public life." The NAP also adopted numerous approaches in order to localise the activities planned in various regions. Many important actions were taken to strengthen impact of the RA's first NAP, such as awareness-raising, localisation, and the creation of joint actions for peace with international partners. These have since been implemented by NGOs.

MONITORING AND EVALUATING THE NAP

Three governmental ministries and three NGOs were identified with “sufficient expertise and knowledge on issues related to Women, Peace and Security,” including the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Defense, and Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs.

The timeline of the first NAP ran from 2019-2021; these were the most challenging years in Armenia’s modern day history, with COVID-19’s heavy impact felt across the world, and the 44-Day War bringing numerous issues to light that were in need of urgent and holistic solutions.

These acute crises became hard tests for Armenia, and more specifically for Armenian women, especially those who had been forced to leave their homes under threat of violence, and those who found themselves in a new socio-political context due to the redrawing of borders as a result of the trilateral ceasefire agreement.⁵⁰ These challenges created an urgent need to rethink the policies addressing women’s rights and the WPS NAP.

Important processes related to the promotion of women’s rights and participation had also occurred within different spheres during this time. The following section presents several recommendations for the first NAP, which, if included in the next NAP, will subsequently increase its overall impact and effectiveness.

GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ARMENIA’S FIRST NAP

Resolution 1325 reaffirmed that approaches centered on gender equality and human rights is necessary in order to view women’s increased roles and meaningful participation from the perspective of equal rights.

It is important to actualize women’s participation in all stages of the peace process from the human rights perspective, meaning based on the human right of equal participation in all decision-making areas. Accepting and incorporating this perspective will strengthen the Resolution’s impact without the need for it to be legally binding because it identifies women’s participation as a right,⁵¹ setting it on par with other normative agreements and statutes.

Armenia’s NAP must go beyond merely the increased participation of women in the security and defense sectors and equally address the development of mechanisms that

50. <https://www.primeminister.am/en/press-release/item/2020/11/10/Announcement/z>

51. UN Resolution significant but lacking, <https://peacewomen.org/resource/un-resolution-1325-significant-lacking>

promote women's participation across all sectors. The NAP must ensure that introducing gendered perspectives and significantly increasing women's participation becomes a primary objective for all national agencies involved in the prevention of conflicts and achievement of peace. The WPS NAP is an instrument designed to achieve this goal; it requires gender mainstreaming and the use of gender-sensitive indicators and gender budgeting.

Cooperation with civil society actors throughout Armenia must be strengthened to better incorporate their perspectives and concerns into future recommendations and adopt programmes designed to benefit all parts of society. Strengthening inclusive approaches and organising regular consultations with regional actors overseeing activities throughout the country is an important step since women from communities most affected by the conflict must also be given the platform to voice their needs and concerns and propose solutions.

ACTIONS TAKEN BY CSOS TO PROMOTE AND ENHANCE KNOWLEDGE ON WPS IN ARMENIA

BOX 13. NATIONAL FORUMS ON WPS IMPLEMENTATION AND WOMEN'S POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC PARTICIPATION

Collaborations aimed to find common ground for central and local government representatives amidst post-war realities, and create a platform where civil society organisations could promote a constructive dialogue over the Armenian NAP, UNSCR 1325, and the Women, Peace and Security agenda. Considering local government representatives have been excluded from the development and implementation of the NAP, it is significant that approximately 50% of the National Forum's participants were local government representatives

who had also participated in a Localisation Workshop, organised by experts of the Global Network of Women Peacebuilders. These representatives were specifically included in this training with the purpose of enhancing their visibility, providing them with the necessary space to personally present the issues and challenges faced by their respective communities, and to better understand the mechanisms available to support the implementation of the Armenian NAP on UNSCR 1325.⁵²

52. The activities are implemented by the Women's Agenda NGO in Partnership with the Global Network of Women Peacebuilders.

BOX 14. THE PROJECT, “WOMEN CHANGE THEIR COMMUNITIES”

“Implementing Women, Peace and Security Resolution at the border community of Armenia” was a project implemented by Democracy Today, in partnership with the Austrian Development Agency. The project specifically addressed the needs of border community women, and women who had been displaced as a result of the 44-Day War with the aim of providing them with the necessary knowledge and tools to better integrate into their new host communities. This objective was achieved through the provision of small grants to start their own economic and entrepreneurial activities.

This programme consisted of two phases:

1) Providing education on various topics as well as and the practical tools necessary to implement this education in practice, which enabled women to become pioneers in starting their own small businesses and financially supporting their families;

2) Training participants to translate their needs, concerns, and recommendations for improving the second WPS NAP into proposals that were then discussed with the members of the Inter-Agency Commission. The resulting proposals succeeded in becoming an integral part of the new NAP.

BOX 15. WOMEN, PEACE AND SECURITY TRAININGS FOR JOURNALISTS

A Media Workshop hosting 19 journalists from 13 media sources was the first activity to be implemented within the “Women Change Their Communities” project. Taking into consideration the recent escalations in Nagorno-Karabakh and the aftermath of the 44-Day War between Armenia and Azerbaijan in 2020, the workshop’s topic was highly sensitive and ran a risk of causing re-traumatisation

to some participants. With this in mind, Women’s Agenda’s organising team ensured that several safeguards were in place throughout the duration of the workshop in order to promote its success while minimizing risk, such as including a psychologist in the training session to ensure a safe and healthy environment for all participants.⁵³

53. The activities are implemented by the Women’s Agenda NGO in Partnership with the Global Network of Women Peacebuilders.

STRENGTHENING ACTIVITIES RELATED TO RELIEF AND RECOVERY

The first NAP only introduced two objectives, with its relatively few initiatives primarily dedicated to a needs assessment and monitoring activities. However, this pillar is very important when taking into account the critical post-war/at-war realities which Armenia faces today.

Although notable progress has been made, women's empowerment programmes must continue to be expanded and developed. The state has designed numerous social programmes in Armenia, which often include female representatives for "vulnerable groups," but not for the programme's main target groups or beneficiaries. In most cases, the programmes are not specifically designed for women and are not created as a part of the state's WPS agenda.

Recommendations to address the challenges resulting from the 44-Day War:

1. Conduct an assessment of specific security needs for women living within the border regions;
2. Strengthen human security by ensuring border community and displaced women are protected from violence and are able to obtain economic security, healthcare, and social benefits;
3. Develop LAPs to address the realities women face at the communal level and correlate these plans with the NAP at the state-level;
4. Disperse funding directly to local organizations and municipalities, including joint projects involving state agencies and local women;
5. Enhance educational and socio-economic programmes on the border;
6. Alter the NAP to ensure that it contains the level of flexibility required to incorporate all such relevant changes.

The following boxes illustrate the actions taken at the state and civil society levels to implement the National Action Plan.

BOX 16. THE INTERNATIONAL YOUNG WOMEN'S PEACE AND HUMAN RIGHTS AWARD

In 2012, Democracy Today established the International Young Women's Peace and Human Rights Award.⁵⁴ The primary aim of the award is to acknowledge the exceptional role and leadership potential of young women in building sustainable peace, empowering their communities, working to prevent conflicts, and restoring and protecting human rights. Awardees are typically engaged in activities related to civic activism, academic research, journalism and writing, and must have had a lasting impact on different peace and confidence-building processes.

Running parallel to this award's ceremony are the international annual conferences covering various aspects of UNSCR 1325. The conference's discussions take local WPS experiences from all over the world and place them within the global context. Discussion themes include: the economy of war, economy of peace, women in the army, the impact of violence against women, the role of peacekeepers in protecting the rights of women, and journalism during times of war and peace, among others.

Since 2012, 36 women and four organisations received awards and special

diplomas for their professionalism and outstanding dedication to the protection of human rights and peace throughout the world. The geographical location or current residence of the awardee or organisation is not important; what matters, is their work for peace. Nevertheless, in most cases, individual women and organisations from conflict-affected and war-impacted communities have become nominees throughout the duration of the award's existence. Awardees have hailed from areas such as Cameroon, Yemen, Kenya, Myanmar, Syria, Iraq, Nagorno-Karabakh, Chechnya, France, USA, Belgium, Ingushetia, Dagestan, Georgia, and many others, in recognition of their work. (For more information see [www.' Democracy today.am](http://www.democracytoday.am)" peace award)

This year, Democracy Today celebrated 10 years of presenting such awards and hosting international conferences. The most recent conference was dedicated to a discussion on "Our Common Security," a study conducted by the Olaf Palme International Foundation, and was facilitated in an open discussion platform with wide-ranging participation.

54. Democracy Today NGO. 2022. THE INTERNATIONAL YOUNG WOMEN'S PEACE AND HUMAN RIGHTS AWARD. <https://www.democracytoday.am/peace-award>.

CHAPTER 4

THE SECOND ARMENIAN WPS NATIONAL ACTION PLAN FOR 2022-2024: TOWARDS A HIGH-IMPACT NAP TO ADDRESS EMERGENCY NEEDS AND BUILD AND SUSTAIN LONG-TERM ADVANCEMENT

OVERVIEW

The government of Armenia approved decision N1902-L on 18 November 2021. The second NAP on the implementation of UNSC Resolution 1325 introduced many innovative conceptual approaches and solutions to make it more dynamic, responsive and impact-oriented. To stress the priority placed on the conceptual approaches of the second NAP, Armenia included provisions of UNSCR 1325 in its 2020-2022 national strategy as primacy for its membership to the Human Rights Council.

The document was designed and developed as a result of numerous open and collaborative discussions and analyses in search of comprehensive solutions for the post-war needs of Armenian women.

The horizontal membership of the Inter-Agency Commission included representatives of key ministries and civil society actors formally included in the list of members and international agencies adopted by special governmental decree. Those responsible for drafting the initial document attempted to maximize the representation of border community and displaced women from Nagorno Karabakh by inviting them to participate in the consultation process and further emphasize their needs.

These consultations aided in consolidating and addressing the most critical areas of support for and programming of the NAP approved by the government of Armenia.

NEW ARCHITECTURE OF ARMENIA'S SECOND NAP

The preamble of the second NAP outlines its conceptual approaches and introduces the work of six pillars, rather than the standard four used within the first NAP.⁵⁵ It is clear that pillars two and four (protection and relief and recovery) complement each other quite well and primarily work to address at-risk populations. One of the new pillars ("cooperation"), was introduced in order to reflect the history of the Armenian people, including its experiences with blatant violations of humanitarian law and repeated threats of genocide.

55. Never again 44 days war crimes and International law, "Democracy Today" 2020.

The preamble also reaffirms the willingness of the government of Armenia “to continue the work towards the themes on women, peace and security,” and ensures the continuity of the first NAP’s initiatives by building on prior achievements in the areas of protection and women’s rights.

The second NAP addressed three key security issues that have arisen as a result of the most recent war: the redrawing of borders, new security realities and actors, and an influx of displaced persons from Nagorno Karabakh, a majority of which are women. The situation was only further complicated by the fact that the war broke out and continued during the peak of COVID-19. The preamble provides data on civilian population losses resulting from the 44-Day War, stating that 80 civilians were killed, including 12 women, and that of the 91,000 people displaced, 88 percent were comprised of women. The new NAP introduces solutions to these complex problems by strengthening human security approaches with programmes to ensure that women maintain equal access to their rights and are protected from violence.

This NAP also focuses heavily on prevention techniques and introduces new aspects of prevention related to the topics of genocide, war and violence. It is important to underline that Armenia’s traumatic experience with war did not result in the implementation of protection initiatives based on enhanced military programmes, but were instead based on the premises of prevention, community education initiatives, and enhancing human security.

ANALYSIS OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FIRST NAP AND LESSONS LEARNED

Localisation processes had already been initiated by numerous civil society groups during the implementation of the first NAP, and were mostly carried out through awareness-raising campaigns and other relevant training programmes. This method of implementation aims to create positive attitudes towards women’s roles in community leadership and community building processes, invest in better community cooperation, and soften barriers to entry by introducing WPS values and emphasizing the importance of women’s participation in community peace and stabilisation.

Discussions centered on gender equality issues at the local level evoked additional dialogue on the topics of community justice, healthcare, cooperation, education, domestic affairs and defense. It also led to discussions on foreign policy, clearly demonstrating the overlaps and synergy taking place between the domestic and foreign dimensions of political affairs.

This invitation for local collaboration was accepted with great appreciation and served as an effective reintegration tool.

CHAPTER 5

ARMENIA ON THE PATH TO DEVELOPING AN IMPACT-ORIENTED SECOND NAP.

11 BASIC PRINCIPLES OF ARMENIA'S SECOND NAP

EXPRESSION OF POLITICAL WILL

This term is best defined as a complex phenomenon involving, “the commitment of actors to undertake actions to achieve a set of objectives and to sustain the costs of those actions over time.”⁵⁶ Considering the government of Armenia (GOA) chose to move forward with the adoption of the WPS NAP during a national crisis, this decisive action firmly demonstrates the political will of the GOA to support WPS initiatives.

The second WPS NAP builds from the policy agenda and conceptual approaches introduced within the first NAP, and is largely inspired by recent democratic developments in Armenia. Numerous elements of the second NAP justify the government’s intentions to not only continue the implementation process, but sustain these actions over time. This strategy has been commended by the CEDAW Committee in its concluding remarks.⁵⁷

Many policy programmes have been developed to address the increased participation of female staff members and appointees within sectors often deemed “non-traditional” for women’s involvement, including the appointment of women to positions often considered exclusively for men; for example: Prosecutor General, Chief of Aviation, and other high-ranking appointments. A number of improvements have been introduced to institutional and policy frameworks to enhance the measures taken to eliminate discrimination against women and promote gender equality. Such measures include:

- Adopting an Action Plan in 2019 related to the national strategy for human rights protection for the 2020–2022 period;
- Developing the 2019-2023 gender policy implementation strategy;
- Adopting the 2020-2022 National Action Plan on Combating Trafficking in Persons;
- Transforming international legal instruments into tools for women’s protection, such as the adoption of the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant

56. Unpacking the concept of political will U4Brief, <https://www.u4.no/publications/unpacking-the-concept-of-political-will-to-confront-corruption.pdf>

57. Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women Concluding observations on the seventh periodic review

on Civil and Political Rights (aiming to abolish the death penalty);

- Adopting the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child, including its communications procedure, signed in 2020; and
- Adopting the Council of Europe's Convention on the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse, in 2020.

In recent years, numerous domestic policy changes have been introduced to create an environment that is more conducive for the promotion of women in security sector careers.⁵⁸ These policies have targeted the increased involvement of women in different subdivisions of the armed forces, police, and in advancing the role of women in the defense sectors and border communities (pillars 1, 2, 3, 4, 6). These reforms have been designed with the intention of increasing meaningful female participation in security systems as well as diversifying the programmes addressing various dimensions of human security, such as economic security, health, housing, and protection against violence. Despite these promising changes, there are still many follow-up actions required in order to ensure the sustainability of these WPS advancements.

INCLUSIVE PROCESSES

The United Nations' WPS agenda fundamentally revolves around the basis of inclusion, with a particular focus on the inclusion of gendered perspectives throughout all peace and security processes and institutions.⁵⁹ The WPS NAP enhances human security by strengthening security measures that address women's unique circumstances and needs, whether that be assessing their security priorities, including female leaders in the development of programmes to address security threats, activating women's resource centers, or introducing programmes to address community prejudices against women's increased roles in peace and stabilisation processes.

To make the NAP effective and impact-oriented, the Armenian government established inclusive cooperation process in the NAP's design, implementation, and monitoring stages. This was accomplished through the horizontal coordination mechanism involving the Inter-Agency Commission, key governmental ministries, relevant experts, international organisations, and local governmental representatives acting as focal points to enable the formal inclusion of civil society actors. Many consultations and discussions have since taken place with actors across Armenia to ensure the comprehensive implementation of the NAP's many components. Implementation has been based on the NAP's six pillar structure: the traditional 4Ps in addition to the two new pillars of cooperation, and monitoring and evaluation.

58. Please see the complete list in "Women in Army" publication of Democracy Today, 2022

59. The global observatory.org <https://theglobalobservatory.org/2020/10/the-women-peace-and-security-agenda-is-not-just-for-straight-cisgender-women/#:~:text=The%20United%20Nations'%20women%2C%20peace,and%20security%20processes%20and%20institutions.>

Wide-spread consultations have also been held with groups of displaced women from Nagorno Kharabakh, women forcibly displaced from border communities, civil society leaders, female activists, and members of local community leaderships. These women now face the challenge of adapting to their new socio-economic realities and finding ways to combat potential security threats arising from living within close proximity to the border, making their voices all the more essential at the forefront of local and national policy decisions. These discussions yielded new collaboration methods with the Inter-Agency Commission and ideas aimed at the creation of Local Action Plans. This successful cooperation was largely achieved due to the tireless work of civil society organisations and women's groups who have worked for many years on awareness-raising campaigns and efforts to localise Resolution 1325 into their respective communities.

It is noteworthy to mention that the proposals produced by the border community and displaced women who participated in these discussions were included within the NAP's Participation Pillar (paragraphs 3 and 4) and included a list of important indicators.

Another urgent topic of discussion, (later incorporated into paragraph 5), addresses emergency security and the importance of preparing women to better cope with crisis situations when they arise. Paragraph 5 includes measures to address this issue and relay female participants' top areas of concern.⁶⁰

EFFECTIVE COORDINATION

The Inter-Agency Commission was established by governmental decree, with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs assigned to coordinate its functions. The roles and responsibilities of each member of the Commission are clearly defined within the NAP, share a common mission, and include a yearly reporting period. Within the Commission, the focal points of each ministry are responsible for coordinating the work of their ministries, including that of the ministries' regional structures. For example, Ministry of Labour and Social Protection MOLSA is responsible for overseeing the tasks of the agencies in the regions working to protect the rights of women, children, displaced persons, and other vulnerable groups. An active role in this cooperative process is also assigned to local governing bodies and regional institutional mechanisms.

3. Cooperation with local and international partners. One of the second NAP's newest pillars (cooperation) is directed at strengthening and expanding international partnerships. While the first NAP reaffirmed the necessity of cooperation among key domestic bodies, the second NAP stresses the importance of international cooperation with states that have their own NAPs, organisations/foundations with similar core goals, and programmes conducting joint studies and assessments on promising practices in the WPS field (paragraphs 4, 18, 19, 20). Critical to Armenia's evolving post-war context,

60. New security realities for women in post-war Armenia Gulnara Shahinian Democracy Today 2020

paragraph 22 highlights the establishment of cooperation with the office of the UN Secretary General on genocide prevention. The second NAP will invest in information-sharing and building stronger cooperation that will invest in capitalising on WPS worldwide.

THE ROLE OF CIVIL SOCIETY

The GOA approved the composition of the Inter-Agency Commission, formally introducing civil society actors as equal members with the right to vote. Whereas other similar bodies merely grant civil society actors an observer status, this Inter-Agency Commission became the first to approve this level of representation for local actors. Civil society organisations are also invited to cooperate throughout the entirety of the design, implementation, and monitoring and evaluation processes. This is a powerful change, as civil society actors collect and amplify the voices of women from different parts of the country to be further amplified before the Commission.

INTERSECTIONAL APPROACHES

The second NAP addresses the diverse root causes of women's insecurities, the common forms these obstacles may take, and the ways in which they reinforce one another. These dynamics must be taken into consideration in order to create sustainable solutions for complex issues, such as armed violence, that will not result in the reproduction of unequal power structures. Such factors may include gender, age, socio-economic status, and disability, among many others.

The protection pillar (pillar 2, paragraphs 7, 8, 9, 10) dedicates numerous measures to protect women and girls experiencing violent conflict, and grants special protections to women during times of war and other crises. This pillar also works to close the social adaptation gap that wives of military servicemen face, and plans for the organisation of specialised first aid courses during an outbreak of war or conflict.

To address the issue of intersectionality, the NAP's prevention pillar stresses the enhanced collaboration and coordination between the WPS Inter-Agency Commission and other commissions working to promote and protect human rights, including: The Commission on Equality Between Women and Men, the Commission on Actions against Trafficking in Humans, and the Commission on the Rights of Children. Having a holistic understanding of the root causes of women's vulnerabilities, developing comprehensive solutions to address them, and investing in better applications of intersectional approaches will go far in safeguarding women's rights and enhancing human security.

ENSURING COMPLEMENTARY AND SUSTAINABLE PROGRAMMES

The NAP aims to build synergy with other strategies to promote women's empowerment and gender equality programmes designed and implemented in Armenia, which will allow for better coordination and the effective use of financial resources and human capital. This objective can be achieved by building new programmes based on prior NAP achievements, such as other successful programmes, research initiatives, and policy documents. The second NAP has taken into account Armenia's international commitments related to women's rights and gender equality, including those in line with the provisions of CEDAW, the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals, and the Universal Periodic Review, among others, and should be complemented by other WPS legal documents, such as nine other relevant UNSC Resolutions and CEDAW General Recommendation No. 30. The second NAP also incorporates nine supplementary UNSC Resolutions to be used as WPS legal tools and to aid in the formulation of wide-spread education and awareness campaigns on the role of women in genocide prevention.

COMPLEMENTING THE NAP WITH APPROPRIATE FINANCIAL RESOURCES AND HUMAN CAPITAL

To create a stronger impact and ensure intersectionality, the NAP's prevention pillar stresses the enhanced collaboration and coordination of the work of the WPS Inter-Agency Commission with other commissions working to promote and protect human rights: the Commission on Equality Between Women and Men, the Commission to Fight against Trafficking in Humans, and the Commission on the Rights of Children. Having a holistic understanding of the root causes of women's vulnerabilities, developing comprehensive solutions to address them, and investing in a better application of intersectional approaches will go far in safeguarding women's rights and enhancing human security.

INTRODUCING THE NAP AS A "LIVING AND DYNAMIC DOCUMENT."

Taking into consideration Armenia's post-war realities, including instability at the border, the second NAP introduced an important new approach: the programme was structured with a fixed timeline of three years, and includes a timeline for the implementation of each activity laid out within the NAP. The flexibility provided by this approach will allow

relevant actors to address the challenges that may arise from the volatile environment that Armenian border communities currently face. Despite the fact that the 44-Day War concluded with the signing of a ceasefire agreement,⁶¹ Armenians continue to experience recurring violations of the trilateral agreement, and Azerbaijani shootings have posed continuous threats to the livelihoods and stability of border community citizens, particularly vulnerable, displaced women and children. To address these situations in a comprehensive and timely manner, the concept of a “dynamic or living” document was introduced as it allows for added flexibility and the opportunity to introduce new articles and programmes to the NAP to address women’s protection needs as they evolve. This adaptability will also enable relevant actors to frequently assess the effectiveness of institutional mechanisms, the knowledge of their employees, and the status of programmes’ economic capacities to effectively undertake their assigned action items throughout different stages of the implementation process.

THE ROLE OF WOMEN AND GIRLS IN PREVENTING WAR AND OTHER ATROCITIES

The second NAP’s preamble stresses that, as a country fighting against mass atrocities, Armenia prioritises the role of women and girls in genocide prevention. It is important to take these intersecting forms of discrimination into consideration as they aptly highlight the complexities of war and conflict and the distinct ways in which this discrimination adversely impacts different women. In responding to the recent war and consequent crimes committed against a peaceful population, particularly women and children, the NAP underlines the following portion of Resolution 1325, stating it is, “on responsibility of all the states to put an end to impunity and prosecute all those responsible for genocide, crimes against humanity, and war crimes, including those of a sexual nature and other forms of violence against women and girls, and stresses the need to exclude these crimes from amnesty provisions when feasible.”

MONITORING AND EVALUATING THE NAP

The second NAP defines a new monitoring and evaluation strategy, proposing a mechanism that can comprehensively detail the effectiveness of its implementation. The Inter-Agency Commission plans to establish a working group composed of state agencies, experts, and NGOs to assess the implementation of the progress reports submitted and evaluate the NAP’s overall effectiveness.

61. <https://www.commonspace.eu/news/document-full-text-agreement-between-leaders-russia-armenia-and-azerbaijan>

FUNDING THE SECOND NAP

The programme was adopted following the conclusion of the fiscal year; therefore, the column within the NAP that addresses funding sources currently states that financial resources to support the programme have come from international organisations, civil society organisational contributions, and other legally permissible sources. It is important that the NAP budget is based on gender-responsive principles and that an intersectional approach is used when designing the budget to achieve this aim.

CHAPTER 6

WORKING TOGETHER TO STRENGTHENING THE SECOND NAP INVITING RELEVANT ACTORS TO OPENLY DISCUSS PROPOSED RECOMMENDATIONS

This resource book establishes an open process to consider and accept NAP recommendations. The discussions are held with a wide circle of officials, civil society leaders, and experts, which will serve three primary purposes: to raise awareness and deepen the existing knowledge on WPS; to establish a platform of experts to discuss issues related to WPS; and to provide input to proposed amendments designed to enhance the NAP and make it more impact-oriented.

Developing the WPS NAP is an evolving work in progress. As noted in the previous chapter, the second NAP introduces the concept of a “living or dynamic” document, which provides it with the opportunity to tie its actions to emerging needs and introduce amendments during the NAP’s programme lifecycle. The recommendations below provide suggestions to enhance the NAP and build a stronger, consolidated platform of experts to develop comprehensive WPS policies in Armenia.

NAPs reflect the realities of each country they are designed to support, including their socio-political environments, which further illustrate ongoing political evolutions and societal attitudes, the state of their democratic cultures, and their visions for future development. The basic principles and concepts upon which Armenia’s second NAP is structured generally corresponds with those developed by UN Women and other international agencies and states.

The second NAP was adopted during this time of national crisis, and has therefore compounded the need to develop policies to ensure the safety and security of the refugees and displaced persons that resulted from the war, with a special emphasis placed on the protection of women and girls. The adoption of the second NAP during this period can also be viewed as the most effective means of safeguarding the full respect for, and realisation of, women’s rights, given that women are a driving force of the country’s socio-economic development.

The primary duty of each state, is to place the protection of human rights at the center of state policy and ensure that the state is upholding its due diligence by appropriately responding to private individuals or entities that risk impairing the rights enshrined in international law. In that respect, protecting women’s human rights, advancing substantive gender equality initiatives before, during and after conflict, and ensuring that women are represented and integrated into all peacebuilding, peacemaking and reconstruction processes must become, and remain, key objectives of state policy.

Implementing Resolution 1325 requires consistent policies that promote the public recognition of women's rights, effective protections, and a substantial increase in strategic, flexible, sustainable and targeted financing for women's civil society organisations, including female human rights defenders. Effective implementation also requires actions to be taken to end the violence that so frequently targets women and girls who seek to lead movements for change. The second NAP's preamble stresses that, as a country fighting against mass atrocities, Armenia prioritises the role of women and girls in the context of genocide prevention. Taking these intersecting forms of discrimination into consideration provides a more holistic understanding of the complexities of war and conflict and how they affect different women in unique ways.

MAINSTREAMING GENDER EQUALITY AND THE ROLE OF WOMEN IN PEACE PROCESSES

When Armenia adopted its WPS NAP, the country became engaged in a transformative and influential process of designing, promoting and implementing policies that recognise the critical role that women play in all of the efforts put forth to achieve sustainable, international peace and security. This ultimate goal may be achieved by applying well-researched methodologies that take into consideration Armenia's obligations under international law, effective international best practices, and find ways in which these tools can support programmes and activities tailored to fit Armenian realities.

Gender mainstreaming should be integrated throughout all such programmes, and for all initiatives created with the aim of promoting the equal and meaningful participation of women in peace processes, peacebuilding and security. Resolution 1325 is not solely limited to women's increased participation in decision-making roles for sectors such as security, defense and law enforcement; it's policies are geared to promote women in all sectors of public and political life, such as within political affairs, lawmaking, diplomacy, education, and the economy. Within the Armenian context and its newfound post-war realities, it is important to adopt a gender-as-intersectionality model that takes into account the complexity of gender relations, and, more specifically, a model that reflects on the social inequalities that come into play in regards to gender.

Mainstreaming a gender perspective into peace and conflict analysis reveals, for instance, that sexual and gender-based violence is not targeted at all women in the same way.⁶² In its seventh session, the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women's concluding observations for the Armenian Report highlighted the need to strengthen the framework for gender equality through increased cooperation between the national machinery and regional and local authorities (including civil society) and

62. Gender Mainstreaming in Peace and Security Policymaking Jacqui True 1 Monash University, Australia https://peacewomen.org/system/files/global_study_submissions/Gender%20mainstreaming%20in%20peace%20and%20security_Jacqui%20True.pdf

women's rights organisations in particular.⁶³

In its recommendations to Armenia's Periodic Report, the CEDAW Expert Committee highlighted⁶⁴ “that with a view of lasting peace it is critical that the meaningful and inclusive participation of women at all stages of peace and reconstruction processes be ensured so that women's priorities and experiences of the armed conflict are fully integrated into those processes, as required under the Convention and Security Council Resolution 1325 (2000). The Expert Committee reiterates the importance of the General Recommendation to Convention No. 30 (2013)⁶⁵ on women in conflict prevention, conflict and post-conflict situations, with the objective of achieving substantive equality between women and men in all areas covered by the Convention, promoting women's leadership in peace processes and ensuring that the state party is able to experience sustainable human, social and economic development.”

WPS is a policy framework that recognises that women must be critical actors in all efforts to achieve sustainable, international peace and security. It is important to seek and support the participation and promotion of women in decision-making process. To achieve sustainable peace and security, it is necessary to develop holistic policies and strong mechanisms to integrate women in all spheres of peace and security. This effort must not be limited to the promotion of women in the armed forces, police and defense, it must be extended to women in diplomacy, legislative bodies, the National Assembly, Commissions on security and human rights, and the Office of the Security Council of the ROA (see NAP participation pillars 1, 2, 3, 6). It is specifically important to strengthen the WPS capacities of female politicians and high-ranking government officials. Measures must also be planned that strengthen the programmes designed to address the involvement of women from the border regions and displaced women in discussions of security-related issues, as well as include them in developing programmes to address challenges stemming from climate change. To that end, the CEDAW Experts Committee noted the following during its evaluation of the Armenia's State Report:

“The Committee notes with appreciation the State party's commitment to advancing the political participation of women, which is a priority area in the State party's strategy for gender policy implementation for the period 2019–2023 and the associated action plan, as well as the increase of female representation in the National Assembly to 35.5 per cent in 2021. However, it remains concerned that women are still underrepresented in decision-making positions, including in the Government, academia, the judiciary, the public service and the foreign service.”

63. Ibid

64. Committee on elimination of discrimination against women. Concluding observation on the seventh periodic report

65. <https://www.ohchr.org/sites/default/files/Documents/HRBodies/CEDAW/GComments/CEDAW.C.CG.30.pdf>

RECOMMENDATIONS TO STRENGTHEN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SECOND NAP

1. Addressing the needs of displaced women in a comprehensive, sustainable way. Numerous programmes have been created to address the needs of displaced and border community women from Nagorno Kharabakh and uplift women and girls facing overlapping forms of discrimination, including widows, women and girls with disabilities, and elderly women. Internally displaced women and girls, and those in refugee-like situations, must have adequate access to justice, education, healthcare, food, shelter, freedom of movement, official registration, social benefits and sustainable employment opportunities.

2. Addressing the effects of climate change on women. In light of the many discussions held, and reports written, by civil society actors and the Ministry of Environment detailing the additional vulnerabilities facing women due to climate change, programmes addressing the impact of climate change on women were incorporated into the second NAP (pillar 4: participation). Recommendations by the CEDAW Committee strongly demand that the gender-related dimensions of climate change on women be addressed. The Committee recommends that, in line with its General Recommendation No. 37 (2018) on the gender-related dimensions of disaster risk reduction in the context of climate change, “the state party review its climate change and energy policies, taking into account the negative effects of climate change on the livelihoods of women, especially rural women, and ensuring that women are able to participate in decision-making on such policies and in projects on the green economy.”⁶⁶

3. Diversifying the inclusion of relevant actors. While the membership composition of the WPS Inter-Agency Commission is inclusive, and the NAP has adopted numerous activities to strengthen the inclusion of other actors in designing and implementing programmes, it is important to go further and develop flexible consultation mechanisms with the participation of a wide range of civil society actors, human rights defenders and experts. This will increase the versatility of programmes and take on a more pragmatic approach.

4. Strengthening awareness-raising and education surrounding WPS programmes. WPS is an evolutionary process, requiring the constant provision of new knowledge and progressive approaches as societal needs continue to emerge. It is important to develop programmes that build the capacities of state officials and NGO members of the Inter-Agency Commission, as well as going beyond these primary users and organising far-reaching campaigns. It is also important to educate key stakeholders on the new and existing legal tools developed to address women’s rights.

66. Concluding observation of the CEDAW committee to the seventh periodic report of Armenia

Crucially, awareness must also be raised surrounding the contributions that female human rights defenders have made towards the realisation of women's rights, including through policies and other measures, and the actions they have taken to prevent attacks and mitigate threats against women, and provide protection and reparations for female human rights defenders in the field. Further action is required to end the violence that so frequently targets women and girls who seek to lead movements for change. It is recommended, therefore, to expand the participation pool when organising trainings on the use of gender-responsive language to address discriminatory gender stereotypes in the media to include relevant public officials, media personnel, and business sector representatives, in order to educate key actors to combat the objectification of women and promote their positive portrayal as active drivers of development, and encourage the use of the glossary included in this resource book to correctly use appropriate terminology.

5. Strengthening cooperation and coordination within other structures. It is important to conduct assessments on institutional strengths, weaknesses, and their abilities to respond to the requirements of the WPS NAP. Such assessments would cover institutional architecture, including knowledge levels, internal cooperation mechanisms, financial allocations, and internal legal documentation. While cooperation mechanisms have been established within ministries with departments in the field, these mechanisms must be strengthened, and special WPS training programmes provided for the representatives of these agencies and those of local governance bodies.

6. Balancing state and human security programmes. The second NAP introduced a balanced approach to the protection of women from threat of violence and strengthened access to various dimensions of human security, such as healthcare, employment, education, and housing. The introduction and usage of programmes to strengthen access to justice and guarantee equal protections through administrative and civil procedures is equally important. To that end, it is necessary to first develop special training modules for judicial and law enforcement entities on these rights with a specific emphasis on the obstacles that displaced and border community women face when attempting to learn of and access these processes.

7. Multiple threats of violence against women. Conflicts and war increase the threat of violence against women both within the family and from outside actors, such as peacekeeping forces. An increased risk of violence against female combatants during violations of the ceasefire remains a prevalent threat. Although few cases of such instances are registered, additional safeguards are needed for women, including confidential and trauma-informed spaces to report violent crime, and mechanisms put in place to ensure that such cases have been adequately and thoroughly investigated with known perpetrators held to account. Under these conditions, the government should ensure that women receive free legal aid and assistance.

8. Strengthening the Realisation of Armenia's Obligations to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. In its concluding remarks, The CEDAW Expert Committee called for the realisation of de jure (legal) and de facto (substantive) gender equality throughout the implementing process of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in accordance with the provisions of the Convention. The Committee recalled the importance of Goal 5 and the importance of mainstreaming the principles of equality and non-discrimination throughout all 17 goals. It urged state parties to recognise women as the driving force of Armenia's sustainable development and to adopt relevant policies and strategies to reflect this reality.⁶⁷

9. Gender-responsive budgeting. Gender-responsive budgeting should be introduced along with the measures necessary to monitor implementation, establish accountability mechanisms, and produce comprehensive indicators. Gender-responsive budgeting must be integrated into the NAP in order to effectively fulfill Armenia's obligations to UNSCR 1325.⁶⁸

10. Monitoring and evaluation. While comparing different monitoring and evaluation models, it was decided that, for the purposes of this resource book, the M&E model used in the publication, "Creating NAPs: A Guide to the Implementation of UNSC Resolution 1325," is best suited for this content.⁶⁹

67. Committee on elimination of discrimination against women. Concluding observation on the seventh periodic report

68. Ibid.

69. <https://www.inclusivesecurity.org/2019/03/25/what-makes-for-an-effective-wps-national-action-plan/>

EVALUATIONS SHOULD:

<i>Inform policymakers, managers, and the public if interventions are leading to designed results.</i>	<i>Build organisational knowledge and capacity.</i>	<i>Strengthen accountability</i>
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Monitoring is a routine activity undertaken throughout the lifecycle of a programme or policy, supplying implementers with a continuous flow of data about a programme's performance; it helps us understand progress toward the outcomes the NAP seeks to achieve. Evaluation, on the other hand, is a systematic and objective assessment of a planned, ongoing, or completed project, programme, or policy in relation to a particular set of evaluation criteria and standards of performance.⁷⁰ Evaluation allows implementers to understand to what extent the change the NAP has achieved can be attributed to the activities undertaken. The aim of an evaluation can also include assessing the efficiency, effectiveness, impact, and sustainability of the NAP. Evaluation reports are crucial for evidence-based policymaking, as they provide information that can improve the decisions made by implementers, policymakers, and donors.

An evaluation or review of the NAP can help you answer the following questions, for instance:

1. What is the progress made toward the NAP's outcomes? What are the achievements and the challenges that remain?
2. What and where are the gaps where NAP objectives have not been met?
3. What adjustments should be made to the NAP to address any gaps and reflect the changing international environment with respect to women and girls in conflict situations?
4. How can NAP partner departments better define actions; plan and execute for results; and track, monitor, and report on actions and indicators?
5. How can the NAP be better utilised as a guide for planning, conducting, and monitoring and reporting of women, peace, and security activities?

Evaluations help determine the worth or significance of an activity, policy, or programme and may include an assessment of the quality of the planning and implementation processes. In cases where results are difficult to measure, evaluations may focus entirely on process-related questions. Evaluation studies and research on performance also build

70. Definition adapted from Glossary of Key Terms in Evaluation and Results Based Management (Paris: OECD, 2002).

organisational knowledge and capacity, and can provide the public with information on the impact of the project or policy. They can serve as evidence and proof of accountability for other partners, such as donor agencies or external organisations. Additionally, by providing the opportunity to stand back and reflect on strategies and results, evaluation helps further the dialogue among implementing partners.⁷¹

TYPES OF EVALUATIONS

In preparing to evaluate your NAP, it is essential to identify implementing partners and consider how they should participate in the process.

The key questions to consider are:

- (1) Who is in charge of formulating the evaluation questions?
- (2) Who is responsible for designing and implementing the evaluation process?
- (3) How will you disseminate and use the evaluation (all or some of its components)?

Depending on the answers to these questions, the evaluation will follow one of these models: external, internal, or participatory.

An external evaluation of the NAP is conducted by someone outside of the implementing organisation, programme, or policy, with no stake in the results. An internal evaluation is managed by someone who is organisationally attached to the programme or policy. While internal evaluators may have a deeper understanding of the NAP context and be better positioned to facilitate the use of evaluation and learning within the implementing agencies, they may also lack credibility with external audiences and may not be able to fully serve the purpose of accountability. Internal and external evaluations require different types of resource allocation, with external evaluation requiring more financial resources and internal evaluation relying on human capacity and time commitment.

In participatory evaluations, evaluators act as facilitators or instructors to help the implementing partners make assessments about the value of the programme or policy.²² Developing a common understanding among partners about the outcomes of, and methods for, implementation is a pre-condition to this type of evaluation, as is a participatory approach to designing and delivering activities and services.

71. Stefan Molund and Göran Schill, *Looking Back, Moving Forward a SIDA Evaluation Manual*, 2nd ed. (Stockholm: SIDA, 2004)

EVALUATION METHODS

Different evaluation methods are appropriate for answering different kinds of questions. Implementers, evaluation managers, and other partners should work together to define the types of information they need about NAP implementation. Once you identify what you would like to know about the NAP implementation, process, results, and lessons learned, you will be able to choose the appropriate method. The table lists the most common evaluation types.

<i>TYPE OF EVALUATION</i>	<i>WHAT IS IT?</i>	<i>WHY DO IT?</i>	<i>WHEN TO DO IT?</i>
Formative Evaluation	Identifies the strengths and weaknesses of a policy before the start of implementation. The purpose is to increase the chance of policy success.	Allows for changes before full implementation begins and increases the likelihood that the policy will succeed.	During the development of a new policy; when an existing policy is being revised or used in a new setting.
Process Evaluation	Documents and assesses processes and tasks related to programme or policy implementation.	Provides tools to monitor implementation quality, which is critical to maximizing the intended benefits and demonstrating strategy effectiveness.	From the start of implementation; during implementation.
Rapid Appraisal	Provides information in a timely and cost-effective manner by using both qualitative and quantitative methods in a less structured way. 24	Allows for quick, real-time assessment and reporting and provides decision makers with immediate feedback on the progress of a given project, programme, or policy.	When descriptive information is sufficient to policymakers; the primary purpose of the study is to generate suggestions and recommendations; or when available quantitative data must be interpreted.
Summative or Outcome Evaluation	Determines the extent to which outcomes were produced. It is intended to provide information about the worth of the policy.	Indicates whether the policy is being effective in meeting its objectives.	At the end of a policy (or a phase of that programme or policy).

Economic Evaluation	Measures how efficiently resources have been—and should be—allocated to maximize impact.	Provides managers and funders with a way to assess effects relative to costs.	At the planning stage, using cost estimates/projections, and/or during operation of a programme, using actual costs.
Impact Evaluation	Attempts to identify the changes that took place, and to what they can be attributed. It refers to the final (long-term) impact as well as to the (medium-term) effects at the outcome level.	Provides evidence for use in policy, funding, and future programming decisions.	During the operation of an existing policy at appropriate intervals; at the end of a programme.

Table: Common Evaluation Types ⁷²

COMMUNICATING RESULTS CAN

<i>Improve under-performing and promote well-performing programmes.</i>	<i>Build public support for the NAP domestically and internationally.</i>	<i>Attract financial investments and inspire the next generation of high-impact NA</i>
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Monitoring NAP implementation is a means to an end: The data provides information to help you solve implementation challenges and improve practices. This requires ongoing data collection, analysis, and reporting. However, if not used, the data and the reports alone are meaningless. The worth of the M&E system becomes evident when results are systematically disseminated and used by implementers. Whether this happens generally depends on organisational willingness, capacity, culture, politics, and the nature of decision-making processes. With strong leadership, you can cultivate an organisational environment where relying on data for decision making, learning, and strategic planning becomes a habit.

Reflecting on data can facilitate decision making in multiple ways. Inviting other actors, such as civil society organisations, to consider findings will provide you with different perspectives and further insights on NAP implementation. In Steps 1 and 6 of this guide, we outlined the many ways in which data can help organisations improve policies and

72. Figure based on Albino and Kusek. Making Monitoring and Evaluation Systems Work; UNDP “Handbook on Planning, Monitoring and Evaluating for Development Results,” (New York: UN Development Programme, 2009); Molund and Schill, Looking Back, Moving Forward; and Kusek and Rist, Ten Steps to a Results-Based Monitoring and Evaluation System

programmes, and identify solutions to challenges encountered during the process.

When data is shared externally, however, it can also help:

- Create a shared understanding of issues and successes, and enhance cooperation with partners;
- Showcase your country's achievements and best practices; and
- Build public support for the NAP domestically and internationally.

Effective communications is a critical component of NAP implementation. Disseminating results helps ensure transparency, strengthen collaboration, and attract financial investments. To be effective, implementers need to identify their:

- (1) target audience and
- (2) communications objectives.

Conducting a stakeholder analysis can help ensure the success of your communications strategy.

Tailoring the nature and content of an information product to the end users' needs will facilitate its accessibility and use. Information aimed at the general public about the results of NAP implementation after the first year, for instance, might include an overview or highlights of an evaluation or technical report that can be easily disseminated via mass media (e.g., print, radio, television, and/or social media). Reports for donors or partner countries can be more technical and detailed, highlighting relevant strategy information. The profile of target audiences, as well as the prospective communications products, should ideally be outlined in the NAP M&E plan.

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SECTION 2

GLOSSARY OF TERMINOLOGY

ABDUCTION⁷³

- A crime of abduction is considered to be when a person has been taken away from his or her original location by persuading him or her, by some act of fraud or with a forceful way that may include violence.

ACCOUNTABILITY⁷⁴

- A process which requires government to show, explain and justify how it has fulfilled its obligations to the people.

ADVOCACY⁷⁵

- A publicly support or suggest an idea, a development or way of doing something.

BEIJING DECLARATION AND PLATFORM FOR ACTION⁷⁶

- The Beijing Platform for Action is a landmark document that emanated from the Fourth World Conference on Women, convened in Beijing, China in September 1995. Member States and civil society participants from around the world reviewed progress and outlined new requirements to accelerate gender equality and the empowerment of women. 12 critical areas of concern are outlined in the resulting Beijing Declaration; Women and Poverty; Education and Training of Women; Women and Health; Violence against Women; the Girl-Child; Women and the Economy; Women in Power and Decision-making; Institutional Mechanism for the Advancement of Women; Human Rights of Women; Women and the Media; Women and the Environment; Women and Armed Conflict. The Platform for Action reaffirms the fundamental principle that the human rights of women and girls are an inalienable, integral and indivisible part of universal human rights. As an agenda for action, the Platform seeks to promote and protect the full enjoyment of all human rights and the fundamental freedoms of all women.

BODILY INTEGRITY⁷⁷

- The right of every person to be free of any interference concerning their physical person from the State or any other person.

CEDAW⁷⁸

- (Convention on the elimination of all forms of discrimination against women)

73. United Nations. n.d. "TRAFFICKING-RELATED DEFINITIONS." UNODC. https://www.unodc.org/documents/human-trafficking/Toolkit-files/08-58296_tool_1-1.pdf.

74. Council of Europe. n.d. GLOSSARY. <https://www.coe.int/en/web/compass/glossary>.

75. Council of Europe. n.d. GLOSSARY. <https://www.coe.int/en/web/compass/glossary>.

76. UN. Department of Public Information. 1995. Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action. September 15. Accessed November 18, 2022. <https://digitallibrary.un.org/record/1648092?ln=en>.

77. United Nations. n.d. "Bodily Autonomy & Integrity." UNITED NATIONS INDEPENDENT EXPERT ON PROTECTION AGAINST VIOLENCE AND DISCRIMINATION BASED ON SEXUAL ORIENTATION AND GENDER IDENTITY - IESOGI. <https://www.ohchr.org/sites/default/files/2021-11/Summary-Bodily-Autonomy-Integrity.pdf>.

78. 1979. The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW). Accessed November 23, 2022. <https://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/cedaw/cedaw.htm>.

The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), adopted in 1979 by the UN General Assembly, is the only international bill of rights for women. It is the second most ratified convention, following the Rights of the Child. CEDAW articulates the nature and meaning of sex-based discrimination and gender equality, and lays out State obligations to eliminate discrimination. The Convention covers not only discriminatory laws, but also practices and customs, and it applies not only to state action, but also to state responsibility to address discrimination against women by private actors. The Convention covers both civil and political rights:

- Rights to vote, to participate in public life, to acquire, change or retain their nationality, equality before the law and freedom of movement
- Economic, social and cultural rights (rights to education, work, health and financial credit).

CEDAW COMMITTEE⁷⁹

- The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women is the United Nations (UN) treaty body that oversees CEDAW.

CS (CIVIL SOCIETY)⁸⁰

- Civil society is a community of citizens linked by common interest and/or collective activity. It includes a wide array of groups including, but not limited to, non-governmental, faith based, women's social organizations and charities.

CIVIL RIGHTS (sometimes known as civil liberties)⁸¹

- a category of rights and freedoms that protect individuals from unwarranted government action and ensure their ability to participate in the civil life of the state without discrimination or repression.

CONFIDENTIALITY⁸²

- The discretionary nature of certain information, where access is limited to persons authorized to be acquainted with said information.

CONFIDENCE BUILDING MEASURES⁸³

- Confidence-building measures (CBMs) are planned procedures to prevent hostilities, to avert escalation, to reduce military tension, and to build mutual trust

79. United Nations. n.d. Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women. Accessed November 25, 2022. <https://www.ohchr.org/en/treaty-bodies/cedaw>.

80. World Economic Forum. 2018. Who and what is "civil society". April 23. Accessed November 20, 2022. <https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2018/04/what-is-civil-society/>

81. Council of Europe. n.d. GLOSSARY. <https://www.coe.int/en/web/compass/glossary>.

82. United Nations. n.d. "UNDERSTANDING INFORMATION SENSITIVITY." United Nations (Archives and Records Management Section). https://archives.un.org/sites/archives.un.org/files/RM-Guidelines/quick_reference_information_sensitivity.pdf.

83. United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs. n.d. Military Confidence-building. Military Confidence-building.

between countries. They have been applied since the dawn of civilization, on all continents.

CONFLICT⁸⁴

- Opposition or a difference of opinion and/or interests between two or more individuals, villages, political parties, organizations and/or countries. Solutions can be sought either by peaceful measures (for example under the palaver tree, through negotiations, mediation, solicitation from a third party, appeal to an international court or tribunal) or by violent measures (for example, threats of force or armed conflicts). Conflict is understood as a complex, dynamic process with different forms, causes, dimensions, and actors. Conflict exists in all societies at all times and it can be handled in constructive or destructive ways.

CONFLICT PREVENTION⁸⁵

- actions undertaken over the short term to reduce manifest tensions and / or to prevent the outbreak or recurrence of violent conflict.

CONFLICT TRANSFORMATION⁸⁶

- the process by which conflicts such as wars and inter-ethnic and inter-religious violence are changed or transformed into peaceful outcomes. It is a long-term process that addresses the root causes of the conflict as well as the behavior and attitudes of the parties involved.

POST-CONFLICT PEACEBUILDING⁸⁷

- Designed to identify and support structures, which will consolidate peace and advance a sense of confidence and wellbeing among the people

POST CONFLICT RECONSTRUCTION⁸⁸

- The reconstruction of an area after violent conflict. It involves the consolidation of peace and security and the development of socio-economic structures.

CRIMES AGAINST HUMANITY⁸⁹

- Offences involving murder, extermination, enslavement, deportation, and any other human acts committed against any civilian population, before or during the

84. United Nations. n.d. Peace and Conflict Resolution. <https://www.un.org/en/academic-impact/peace-and-conflict-resolution>.

85. Council of Europe. n.d. GLOSSARY. <https://www.coe.int/en/web/compass/glossary>.

86. Council of Europe. n.d. GLOSSARY. <https://www.coe.int/en/web/compass/glossary>.

87. United Nations. n.d. UN Peacebuilding: an Orientation. www.un.org.peacebuilding/files/documents/peacebuilding_orientation.pdf.

88. United Nations. n.d. UN Peacebuilding: an Orientation. www.un.org.peacebuilding/files/documents/peacebuilding_orientation.pdf.

89. United Nations. n.d. "Crimes Against Humanity." Office on Genocide Prevention and Responsibility to Protect. <https://www.un.org/en/genocideprevention/crimes-against-humanity.shtml#:~:text=A%20contextual%20element%3A%20%E2%80%9Cwhen%20committed,with%20knowledge%20of%20the%20attack%E2%80%9D>.

war; or persecutions on political, racial or religious grounds. These crimes are imprescriptible, meaning that there is no statute of limitations. This means that it is possible to engage legal proceedings against their perpetrators even after a very long period of time.

CRIMES OF GENOCIDE⁹⁰

- Series of acts committed with intent to destroy, in whole or in part, a national, ethnic, racial or religious group, as such. These crimes are imprescriptible, meaning that there is no statute of limitations. This means that it is possible to engage legal proceedings against their perpetrators even after a very long period of time. This type of crime is prohibited under domestic law as well as under international law, for instance by the International Criminal Court Statute (also referred to as the Rome Statute)

ORGANIZED CRIME⁹¹

- Organized crime is defined by the nature and motivation of the group that commits the act, rather than by the specific types of crimes committed. In other words, organized crime functions as a criminal enterprise that rationally works to profit from illicit activities that are often in great public demand, such as trafficking in drugs, firearms and even persons.

DISARMAMENT, DEMOBILIZATION, AND REINTEGRATION (DDR)⁹²

- DDR is the process of disarming soldiers or other fighters, disbanding their military units, and helping them integrate socially and economically into society by finding civilian livelihoods. This is a policy taken towards the rehabilitation of ex-combatants in post-conflict societies. The aim is to prevent the recurrence of violence, by disarming and demobilizing combatants and by providing them with an alternative means of income, for example through vocational education programs.

DISCRIMINATION⁹³

- Discrimination is defined as ‘any distinction, exclusion or restriction made on the basis of sex which has the effect or purpose of impairing or nullifying the recognition, enjoyment or exercise of rights by women, irrespective of their marital status, on the basis of equality of men and women, of human rights and fundamental freedoms

90. United Nations. n.d. “Genocide.” Office on Genocide Prevention and Responsibility to Protect. <https://www.un.org/en/genocideprevention/genocide.shtml#:~:text=To%20constitute%20genocide%2C%20there%20must,to%20simply%20disperse%20a%20group>.

91. United Nations. n.d. Organized Crime. <https://www.unodc.org/e4j/zh/mun/crime-prevention/organized-crime.html#:~:text=The%20United%20Nations%20Convention%20against,least%20one%20serious%20crime%3B%20to>.

92. United Nations Peacekeeping. n.d. DISARMAMENT, DEMOBILIZATION AND REINTEGRATION. <https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/disarmament-demobilization-and-reintegration>.

93. United Nations. n.d. Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) Convention, 1958 (No. 111). Accessed November 14, 2022. <https://www.ohchr.org/en/instruments-mechanisms/instruments/discrimination-employment-and-occupation-convention-1958-no-111>.

in the political, economic, social, cultural, civil or any other field'. Discrimination can stem from both law (de jure) or from practice (de facto). The CEDAW Convention recognizes and addresses both forms of discrimination, whether contained in laws, policies, procedures or practice:

- 'De jure discrimination', for example, in some countries, a woman is not allowed to leave the country or hold a job without the consent of her husband.
- 'De facto discrimination', for example, a man and woman may hold the same job position and perform the same duties, but their respective benefits may differ.

DISPLACED PERSONS⁹⁴

- Persons who have been forced or obliged to flee or to leave their homes or places of habitual residence, in particular as a result of or in order to avoid the effects of armed conflict, situations of generalized violence, violations of human rights or natural or human-made disasters. This definition covers both internal and cross-border displacement.

INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS (IDPs)⁹⁵

- Internally Displaced Persons, who are overwhelmingly women and children, are, 'persons or groups of persons who have been forced or obliged to flee or to leave their homes or places of habitual residence, in particular as a result of or in order to avoid the effects of armed conflict, situations of generalized violence, violation of human rights or natural or human-made disasters, and who have not crossed an internationally recognized State border'.

The United Nations report that more than 75% of displaced persons are women and children. Displaced women, in particular, are often at risk of physical and sexual violence as much during their flight as when they arrive in the country of asylum. Being a displaced person is not the same as being a refugee. A refugee is any person who, owing to a well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion, is outside the country of his/her nationality and is unable, or owing to such fear, is unwilling to avail of the protection of that country. It is estimated over 1 million people in Afghanistan are internally displaced due to the conflict and subsequent natural disasters. The number of people internally displaced by conflict has been on the rise since 2009, driven by the violence of non-state armed groups and counter-insurgency operations. Natural disasters, famine and disease are also major factors. Disasters often exacerbate the effects of conflict, and it is frequently a combination of both factors that forces people to flee.

94. United Nations. n.d. UNESCO - Migrants, refugees, or displaced persons. <https://en.unesco.org/news/migrants-refugees-displaced-persons>.

95. UN Refugee Agency. n.d. IDP definition. <https://emergency.unhcr.org/entry/44826/idp-definition>.

ETHNIC CLEANSING⁹⁶

- Elimination of an ethnic group or several ethnic groups considered to be undesirable in a society, through genocide or forced displacements.

FEMINISM⁹⁷

- ‘A feminist is an advocate or supporter of the rights and equality of women’. The Oxford English Dictionary The first recorded use of the word ‘feminist’ in English is from 1852. The term, however, soon gained international currency in the 19th-century women’s rights movements. Feminism is generally defined as a social movement and ideology that fights for the political, economic and social rights for women. Feminists believe that men and women are equal, and that women deserve the same rights as men in society. Though the issues related to feminism may differ for different societies and cultures, they are broadly tied together with the underlying philosophy of achieving equality of gender in every sphere of life. Thus the concept of feminism cannot be tied to any narrow definitions based on a particular class, race or religion. Not all women are feminist and men can also identify as feminist, if they subscribe to the notion of gender equality. There are three ‘accepted’ waves of feminism recorded in mainstream literature: The first wave of feminism happened in the late 19th and early 20th centuries across Europe and North America. First wave feminists were known as the suffragettes and campaigned for women’s right to vote. It is difficult to imagine living in a democracy where only half the population could vote. The second wave of feminism came in the 1960s and 1970s. These activists campaigned for a much broader scope of rights, including the right to equal pay, the right to live free from both physical and sexual violence and reproductive rights including access to contraception and safe and legal abortion. The third wave of feminism started during the 1990s and continues today. The third wave is a more inclusive form of feminism that considers race, ethnicity and sexual identity. It recognizes that every woman’s experiences are different, but continues to fight for the same rights and principles as the second wave. As with all ideologies, there are a number of schools of thoughts and sub-sets of alignments within feminism: including cultural feminism; differential feminism; eco-feminism; liberal feminism; Marxist feminism; radical feminism; post-modern feminism; among others.

FEMININITIES /MASCULINITIES⁹⁸

- Socially constructed perceptions of being a man (or woman); related to manhood (womanhood) and how men (women) are expected to behave in different

96. European Commission. n.d. Ethnic cleansing (Definition(s)). [https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/pages/glossary/ethnic-cleansing_en#:~:text=Definition\(s\),is%20contrary%20to%20international%20law](https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/pages/glossary/ethnic-cleansing_en#:~:text=Definition(s),is%20contrary%20to%20international%20law).

97. United Nations. n.d. Definition/Feminism. Accessed November 15, 2022. <https://interactive.unwomen.org/multimedia/timeline/womenunite/en/index.html#/1840>.

98. Gender Innovations. n.d. Femininities & Masculinities. <https://genderedinnovations.stanford.edu/terms/femininities.html>.

circumstances; we refer to these in the plural to remind participants of the multiplicity and diversity of these perceptions.

GENDER⁹⁹

- Gender refers to the characteristics of women, men, girls and boys that are socially constructed. This includes norms, behaviors and roles associated with being a woman, man, girl or boy, as well as relationships with each other. As a social construct, gender varies from society to society and can change over time.

GENDER ANALYSIS¹⁰⁰

- Gender analysis is the systematic gathering and examination of information on gender differences and on social relations between men and women in order to identify and understand inequities based on gender.
- Gender analysis involves a critical examination of how differences in gender roles, activities, opportunities and rights affect women and men. It examines the relationships between women and men and their access to and control of resources and the constraints they face relative to each other. A gender analysis should be integrated into all assessments or situational analyses to ensure that gender based injustices and inequalities are not perpetuated and/or exacerbated. Gender analysis is the starting point for gender mainstreaming. Before cooperation processes begin, any decisions are made and plans are outlined, the gender equality situation in a given context must be analyzed and expected results identified. For example, gender analysis examines differences in laws and traditions for women and men as regards inheritance rights in different countries. Thus, gender analysis can:
 - Lead to an understanding of the underlying causes of power imbalances and inequalities between men and women [structural inequalities];
 - Explain how men and women are experiencing threats, vulnerabilities and conflict differently [conflict related inequalities]. Gender analysis can demonstrate how different roles for men and women during and after conflict will also impact their contribution to conflict-prevention and post-conflict reconstruction.

GENDER BIAS¹⁰¹

- Gender bias is the inclination to favor/support or prefer one gender over another.

99. World Health Organisation (WHO). n.d. Gender and health. https://www.who.int/health-topics/gender#tab=tab_1.

100. UNFPA. 2014. Methodological Guidelines for the Gender Analysis of National Population and Housing Census Data. Accessed November 5, 2022. [chrome-extension://efaidnbmnnnibpcajpcglclefindmkaj/https://unstats.un.org/unsd/gender/mexico_nov2014/141006-UNFPA-GenderManual2014-02-SCREEN_\(1\).pdf](chrome-extension://efaidnbmnnnibpcajpcglclefindmkaj/https://unstats.un.org/unsd/gender/mexico_nov2014/141006-UNFPA-GenderManual2014-02-SCREEN_(1).pdf).

101. United Nations (UN). n.d. Gender Equality. Accessed November 18, 2022. <https://www.un.org/en/global-issues/gender-equality>

GENDER BLIND¹⁰²

- These policies do not account for existing gender inequalities or their impact on women's access to resources or formal decision-making processes. As these policies rely on existing power relations, they often exclude women or exacerbate inequality.

GENDER CONCEPTS¹⁰³

- Gender Concepts - The concepts introduced in this chapter, in alphabetical order, appear throughout the Resource Package. DPO staff of all ranks and levels should be familiar with these foundational gender concepts. Understanding these terms is necessary for personnel to follow the guidance in subsequent chapters. Conflict Related Sexual Violence (CRSV) Conflict-related sexual violence refers to rape, sexual slavery, forced prostitution, forced pregnancy, forced abortion, enforced sterilization, forced marriage, trafficking in persons when committed in situations of conflict for the purpose of sexual violence/exploitation and any other form of sexual violence of comparable gravity perpetrated against women, men, girls or boys that is directly or indirectly linked to a conflict. Gender refers to the social attributes, roles and opportunities associated with being male and female in a society. These attributes, roles, opportunities and relationships are socially constructed and are learned through socialization. They conform to a society's value system and vary by context and time. Gender defines power relations in society and determines what is socially expected, allowed and valued in a woman or a man within a given context.

GENDER EQUALITY¹⁰⁴

- Gender equality refers to the equal rights, responsibilities and opportunities of women and men. Equality does not mean that women and men will become the same but that women's and men's rights, responsibilities and opportunities will not depend on whether they are born female or male. Gender equality recognizes the diversity perceptions between women and men, but allows for both women and men to advance equally across all spheres – social, political, economic, and cultural. Notably, gender equality is not solely a 'women's issue' but is a concern for both men and women.

GENDER EQUITY¹⁰⁵

- Gender equity involves treatment for women and men, according to their respective needs. This may include treatment that is different but which is considered equivalent in terms of rights, benefits, obligations and opportunities.

102. United Nations. n.d. "Gender Terms Explained." <https://www.un.org>. https://www.un.org/esa/sustdev/csd/csd15/lc/gender_terms.pdf.

103. European Institute for Gender Equality. n.d. Concepts and definitions. <https://eige.europa.eu/gender-mainstreaming/concepts-and-definitions>.

104. United Nations (UN). n.d. United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and Empowerment of Women. Accessed November 6, 2022. <https://www.un.org/womenwatch/osagi/conceptsanddefinitions.htm#:~:text=Equality%20between%20women%20and%20men,men%20and%20girls%20and%20boys>.

105. European Institute for Gender Equality. n.d. Gender Equity. <https://eige.europa.eu/thesaurus/terms/1175>.

- Gender Equity is the process of allocating resources, programs and decision-making fairly to both women and men. This requires ensuring that everyone has access to a full range of opportunities and therefore may need specific actions adopted to support achievement of gender equality.
- Gender Equity is not the same as gender equality. Equity is developing specific and different strategies for women and men based on requirement (fairness). Equality is providing the same opportunities equally (sameness). Equity measures are sometimes called for when women are unable to achieve equality without specific and targeted intervention. These measures are commonly referred to as positive discrimination or affirmative discrimination. Establishing quotas for women's participation is an example of a positive discrimination measure. Quotas are seen as a technique to improve gender balance. This can be seen through the lens of gender equity.

GENDER INDICATORS¹⁰⁶

- Gender indicators are established to measure and compare the situation of women and men over time. Gender indicators can refer to quantitative indicators (based on statistics broken down by sex) or to qualitative indicators (based on women's and men's experiences, attitudes, opinions and feelings). Indicators play a crucial role in the gender mainstreaming process throughout the policy cycle. Quantitative and qualitative indicators must enable ongoing monitoring and evaluation of whether the project's gender equality objectives are being met and assessing the gender effect of project activities. Gender-sensitive indicators allow measuring changes in the relations between women and men in regards to a certain policy area, a specific program or activity, or changes in the status or situation of women and men respectively.

GENDER NEUTRAL¹⁰⁷

- These policies take account of gender differences and use this knowledge to respond to the 'practical' needs of both men and women. However, the focus is on effective delivery and gender-neutral policies do not challenge the differing roles and responsibilities expected of men and women.

GENDER MAINSTREAMING¹⁰⁸

- A globally accepted strategy for promoting gender equality. It is not an end in itself but a means to achieve the goal of gender equality through ensuring that gender perspectives and attention to the goal of gender equality are central to all activities

106. United Nations. 2013. Gender, Statistics and Gender Indicators . Regional consultative workshop to develop a framework and core set of gender statistics and indicators in asia and the pacific, Bangkok: United Nations.

107. United Nations. n.d. "Gender Terms Explained." <https://www.un.org>. https://www.un.org/esa/sustdev/csd/csd15/lc/gender_terms.pdf.

108. United Nations. n.d. "Gender Terms Explained." <https://www.un.org>. https://www.un.org/esa/sustdev/csd/csd15/lc/gender_terms.pdf.

including policy development, resource allocation and planning, implementation and monitoring of programmes and projects.

GENDER PERSPECTIVE¹⁰⁹

- A gender perspective is ‘a strategy to understand the power relationships between men/boys and women/girls. A gender perspective sheds light on who has access to and control of resources, and who participates fully in decision-making in a society’

GENDER REDISTRIBUTIVE¹¹⁰

- These policies focus on the transformation of existing relations of power. The aim is to disrupt existing gender inequality, including the differences in social status and resource access that have hindered women’s empowerment.

GENDER-RESPONSIVE CONFLICT ANALYSIS¹¹¹

- A gender-responsive conflict analysis integrates a gender perspective into conflict analysis. In addition to exploring the actors, causes and dynamics of a conflict, a gender-responsive conflict analysis also considers how gender shapes, and is shaped by, conflict.

GENDER TRANSFORMATION¹¹²

- Shifting harmful gender norms by redressing power disparities between men and women to promote a more equitable environment for both sexes. The transformative approach encourages examining, questioning and changing rigid gender norms and power imbalances as a means of reaching health as well as gender equity objectives

GENDER SPECIFIC¹¹³

- These policies recognize that existing gender inequality has produced specific challenges for women. They involve targeted intervention to respond to gender specific needs, but are not designed to alter the distribution of resources, responsibilities or power. For example, a gender specific policy may introduce additional measures to protect women and girls from sexual assault during conflict but does not seek to challenge dominant patriarchal gender norms which are at the root cause of gender-based violence.

109. European Institute for Gender Equality. n.d. Gender perspective. <https://eige.europa.eu/thesaurus/terms/1197>.

110. United Nations. n.d. “Gender Terms Explained.” <https://www.un.org>. https://www.un.org/esa/sustdev/csd/csd15/lc/gender_terms.pdf.

111. UN Women. n.d. Guidance note: Gender-responsive conflict analysis. <https://www.unwomen.org/en/digital-library/publications/2022/03/guidance-note-gender-responsive-conflict-analysis>

112. United Nations. n.d. “TECHNICAL NOTE ON GENDER-TRANSFORMATIVE APPROACHES IN THE GLOBAL PROGRAMME TO END CHILD MARRIAGE PHASE II: A SUMMARY FOR PRACTITIONERS.” UNICEF. <https://www.unicef.org/media/58196/file>.

113. United Nations. n.d. “Gender Terms Explained.” <https://www.un.org>. https://www.un.org/esa/sustdev/csd/csd15/lc/gender_terms.pdf.

IMPUNITY¹¹⁴

- Absence of sanction. Impunity may be de jure, where jurisdiction is insufficient to sanction certain actions, or de facto, where the law is absent in practice, this being the case when a State is scarcely present due to an unstable political context or if perpetrators can bribe their way out of sanction

INTERSECTIONALITY¹¹⁵

- A perspective that draws attention to the multiple forms of oppression and how they interplay and reinforce one another. These forms of oppression might be related to gender, race/ethnicity, age, sexuality, social class, disability and many others. Paying attention to these intersecting forms of oppression leads us to consider the complexity of war and conflict and how they affect different women in distinct ways. It is necessary to take this into account in order to create sustainable solutions to armed violence that do not reproduce unequal power

KIDNAPPING¹¹⁶

- This is to forcefully carry or abduct person for various reasons against their consent. Kidnapping is usually accompanied with a ransom for money or other gains.

CIVIL LAW¹¹⁷

- Civil law, also known as private law, regulates disputes between private individuals or entities (e.g. companies). Civil law deals with issues such as personal injury, contracts, property, inheritance and family law.

LEGALLY BINDING¹¹⁸

- Lawful action, such as an agreement consciously agreed to by two or more entities, establishing lawful accountability.

PUBLIC LAW¹¹⁹

- A general classification of law, consisting generally of constitutional, administrative, criminal and international law, concerned with the organization of the state, the relations between the state and the people who compose it, the responsibilities of public officers to the state, to each other, and to private persons, and the relations

114. United Nations. n.d. International standards (Special Rapporteur on truth, justice and reparation). <https://www.ohchr.org/en/special-procedures/sr-truth-justice-reparation-and-non-recurrence/international-standards>

115. UN Women. n.d. INTERSECTIONALITY RESOURCE GUIDE AND TOOLKIT. <https://www.unwomen.org/sites/default/files/2022-01/Intersectionality-resource-guide-and-toolkit-en.pdf>

116. United Nations. n.d. "Definition (UNODC)." Kidnapping at the national level, number of police-recorded offences. <https://www.unodc.org/documents/data-and-analysis/Crime-statistics/Kidnapping.xls>.

117. European Center for Constitution and Human Rights (ECCHR). n.d. Civil law. <https://www.ecchr.eu/en/glossary/civil-law/>.

118. The Law Dictionary. n.d. LEGALLY BINDING Definition & Legal Meaning. <https://thelawdictionary.org/legally-binding/>.

119. European Environment Agency. n.d. Public law. <https://www.eea.europa.eu/help/glossary/gemet-environmental-thesaurus/public-law>.

of states to one other. The branch or department of law which is concerned with the state in its political or sovereign capacity, including constitutional and administrative law, and with the definition, regulation, and enforcement of rights in cases where the state is regarded as the subject of the right or object of the duty, - including criminal law and criminal procedure, - and the law of the state, considered in its quasi private personality, i.e., as capable of holding or exercising rights, or acquiring and dealing with property, in the character of an individual.

MEDIATION¹²⁰

- Mediation is a mode of negotiation in which a mutually acceptable third party helps the parties in conflict find a solution that they cannot find by themselves. It is a three-sided political process in which the mediator builds and then draws upon relationships with the other two parties to help them reach a settlement. Unlike judges or arbitrators, mediators have no authority to decide the dispute between the parties. Mediators are typically from outside the conflict.

MILITARISM AND MILITARIZATION¹²¹

- Processes through which war becomes normalized within and across societies and states. Militarization starts already with the socialization of children and youth, especially boys and young men, with war toys, video games and a bravado attitude. Militarism is enabled by the drastically unequal distribution of resources and prestige between defense and military spending on the one hand, and peace education and intercultural literacy on the other. These processes continuously prepare societies for fighting wars and constructing threats and enemies. In the context of such militarized societies, the possibilities for universal demilitarization and disarmament (in the form of all sides putting down their arms and negotiating their differences peacefully) are presented as limited or naïve. The interests and power of elites, defense industries, armed forces and popular culture are aligned against the movements for disarmament – since it would largely put them out of business.

MILITARIZED MASCULINITY¹²²

- Describes socially-constructed gender norms, which associate masculinity with power, violence and control. These norms are endorsed by institutions that thrive on violence and fund the warfare system.

120. United Nations. n.d. "Guidance for Effective Mediation." [peacemaker.un.org](https://peacemaker.un.org/sites/peacemaker.un.org/files/GuidanceEffectiveMediation_UNDPA2012%28english%29_0.pdf). https://peacemaker.un.org/sites/peacemaker.un.org/files/GuidanceEffectiveMediation_UNDPA2012%28english%29_0.pdf.

121. Thee, Marek. 1977. Militarism and Militarization in Contemporary International Relations. Bulletin of Peace Proposals, Oslo: Sage Publications, Inc.

122. Eichler, Maya. 2014. Militarized Masculinities in International Relations. The Brown Journal of World Affairs (Vol. 21, No. 1), Brown Journal of World Affairs.

NEGOTIATION¹²³

- Negotiation is the process of communication and bargaining between parties seeking to arrive at a mutually acceptable outcome on issues of shared concern. The process typically involves compromise and concerns and is designed to result in an agreement.

PARTICIPATION¹²⁴

- Full and equal participation and representation at all levels of decision-making, including discussions and negotiations surrounding peace, electoral processes (candidates and electors), UN positions and the broader socio-political sphere.

PARTY TO A TREATY¹²⁵

- Country that has signed and ratified a treaty that has entered into force, and agrees to be legally bound by the provisions of the treaty. Often referred to as State Parties.

PATRIARCHY¹²⁶

- Manifestation and institutionalization of the domination of men over women and children within families, and by extension, of men's domination over women in society. Patriarchy is a system within which men hold power in all of a society's institutions (legal, economic, religious, family-related, cultural, etc.). It institutionalizes their privileges in context of these same institutions. Patriarchy is based on controlling women's productive and reproductive capacities. The heterosexual family is the most ancient model of patriarchy, and the space where the most violent forms of dominance are expressed.

PREVENTION¹²⁷

- Series of measures taken by citizens, communities, States, regional and international institutions intended to prevent conflicts.

PRINCIPLE¹²⁸

- Source of a fundamental law or reasoning, and also its definition.

123. United Nations. n.d. Negotiations. <https://www.un.org/en/model-united-nations/negotiation>.

124. United Nations. n.d. Article 29 – Participation in political and public life. <https://www.un.org/development/desa/disabilities/convention-on-the-rights-of-persons-with-disabilities/article-29-participation-in-political-and-public-life.html>.

125. United Nations. n.d. "Understanding International Law." Towards Universal Participation and Implementation. https://treaties.un.org/doc/source/events/2010/press_kit/fact_sheet_5_english.pdf.

126. European Union. n.d. "What patriarchal violence is?" Daphne Programme of the European Union. https://eige.europa.eu/docs/28_HU.pdf.

127. United Nations. n.d. Political and Peacebuilding Affairs. <https://dppa.un.org/en/prevention-and-mediation>.

128. United Nations. n.d. United Nations Charter, Chapter I: Purposes and Principles. <https://www.un.org/en/about-us/un-charter/chapter-1>.

PROGRESS INDICATORS¹²⁹

- A factor to look at to assess whether a specific program or activity is well conducted.

PROMOTION¹³⁰

- Act of promoting women's rights, the inclusion of women in decision-making, peace processes, etc.

PROTECTION¹³¹

- Set of concrete measures intended for persons in danger to benefit from the rights they are entitled to enjoy, by shielding them from threats or harm.

RAPE¹³²

- Situation where a person is forced to a sexual act through force, surprise, threats, ruse or any other situation without the individual's consent

RESPONSIBILITY TO PROTECT (R2P)¹³³

- International norm related to human rights, aiming to prevent and put an end to mass atrocities. The responsibility to protect enables the international community to intervene when a country fails to fulfill its duty to protect its population against serious danger, thus challenging states' sovereignty in favor of human rights.

SECURITY¹³⁴

- Traditionally, security has meant freedom from military attack. More recently, the concept has expanded to include environmental and economic concerns. The term human security has been used to emphasize the need to focus on the needs of the individual, including freedom from fear and freedom from want, as well as specific needs such as food security.

HUMAN SECURITY¹³⁵

- 'Human security is an approach to assist Member States in identifying and

129. United Nations. n.d. Indicators - Measuring and Reporting on Progress. <https://www.un.org/esa/sustdev/natlinfo/indicators/idsd/methodologies/indicators.htm>.

130. United Nations. n.d. "PROMOTION AND PROTECTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS." UNODC. https://www.ohchr.org/sites/default/files/Documents/HRBodies/SP/AMeetings/20thsession/UNODCGuidance_Item6.pdf.

131. United Nations. n.d. "PROMOTION AND PROTECTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS." UNODC. https://www.ohchr.org/sites/default/files/Documents/HRBodies/SP/AMeetings/20thsession/UNODCGuidance_Item6.pdf.

132. United Nations. n.d. "Glossary on Sexual Exploitation and Abuse." Thematic Glossary of current terminology related to Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA) in the context of the United Nations. https://hr.un.org/sites/hr.un.org/files/SEA%20Glossary%20%20%5BSecond%20Edition%20-%202017%5D%20-%20English_0.pdf.

133. United Nations. n.d. "RESPONSIBILITY TO PROTECT." Office on Genocide Prevention and The Responsibility to Protect. <https://www.un.org/en/genocideprevention/about-responsibility-to-protect.shtml>.

134. Inter-American Institute of Human Rights. n.d. What is Human Security? https://www.iidh.ed.cr/multic/default_12.aspx?contentid=ea75e2b1-9265-4296-9d8c-3391de83fb42&Portal=IIDHSeguridadEN

135. United Nations. n.d. "HUMAN SECURITY HANDBOOK." United Nations Trust Fund for Human Security. <https://www.un.org/humansecurity/wp-content/uploads/2017/10/h2.pdf>.

addressing widespread and cross-cutting challenges to the survival, livelihood and dignity of their people. It calls for ‘people-centered’, comprehensive, context-specific and prevention-oriented responses that strengthen the protection and empowerment of all people.’

- Human security responds to complexity and the interrelatedness of both old and new security threats – from chronic and persistent poverty to ethnic violence, human trafficking, climate change, international terrorism, and sudden economic and financial downturns. Such threats tend to acquire transnational dimensions and move beyond traditional notions of security that focus on external military aggressions alone. Human Security therefore requires a comprehensive approach that utilizes the wide range of new opportunities to tackle such threats in an integrated manner. Human security threats cannot be tackled through conventional mechanisms alone. Human Security is really the nexus between security, development and human rights, with the focus being on how the individual can feel secure.

PEACE¹³⁶

- The word “peace” evokes complex, sometimes contradictory, interpretations and reactions. For some, peace means the absence of conflict. For others it means the end of violence or the formal cessation of hostilities; for still others, the return to resolving conflict by political means. Some define peace as the attainment of justice and social stability; for others it is economic well-being and basic freedom.

PEACEBUILDING¹³⁷

- Peace building is a broad term which may include providing humanitarian relief, protecting human rights, ensuring security, establishing nonviolent modes of resolving conflicts, fostering reconciliation, and repatriating refugees and resettling internally displaced persons. It also includes conflict prevention in the sense of preventing the recurrence of violence, as well as conflict management and post-conflict recovery. Peace building involves a transformation toward more manageable, peaceful relationships and governance structures—the long-term process of addressing root causes and effects, reconciling differences, normalizing relations, and building institutions that can manage conflict without resort to violence.

PEACE EDUCATION¹³⁸

- Process consisting of promoting a transformation of knowledge, capacities and attitudes via the transmission of values and principles essential for peacebuilding

136. United Nations. n.d. Declaration and Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace : resolutions / adopted by the General Assembly. <https://digitallibrary.un.org/record/285677>.

137. United Nations Peacekeeping. n.d. TERMINOLOGY. <https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/terminology>.

138. United Nations. n.d. Disarmament Education: Peace Education as a New Literacy. <https://www.un.org/en/academic-impact/disarmament-education-peace-education-new-literacy>

and non-violent conflict resolution in practice.

PEACE ENFORCEMENT¹³⁹

- Use of enforcement measures, including armed forces. These measures, expressly authorized by the Security Council, are used to maintain or restore international peace and security, in situations where the existence of any threat to the peace, breach of the peace, or act of aggression was determined. As needed, the Security Council can call on regional institutions or organizations to impose agreed upon measures, under its authority and compliance with provisions of the United Nations Charter.

PEACEKEEPING¹⁴⁰

- Traditionally, action undertaken to preserve peace where fighting has been halted and to assist in implementing agreements achieved by the peacemakers. Typically authorized by the UN Security Council, these operations usually include lightly armed military personnel and have the consent of the parties. The scope of peacekeeping activities has gradually broadened to include civilian and humanitarian activities such as food distribution, electoral assistance, refugee return and reintegration, civilian protection and prevention of gender-based violence.

PEACEMAKING¹⁴¹

- Activities to halt ongoing conflicts and bring hostile parties to agreement, essentially through negotiation, mediation, judicial settlement, resort to regional agencies or agreements, or other peaceful means. Peacemaking typically involves the process of negotiating an agreement between contending parties, often with the help of a third-party mediator.

PEACE NEGOTIATIONS¹⁴²

- The dialogue between previously conflicting parties aimed at ending hostilities and achieving peace. These discussions traditionally involve parties to conflict or their appointed representatives, as well as selected mediators. These positions are overwhelmingly held by men.

PEACE OPERATION¹⁴³

- A generic term sometimes used to encompass peacemaking, peacekeeping, peace enforcement, and peace building, the lines between which are not always clear.

139. United Nations Peacekeeping. n.d. TERMINOLOGY. <https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/terminology>.

140. United Nations Peacekeeping. n.d. TERMINOLOGY. <https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/terminology>.

141. United Nations Peacekeeping. n.d. TERMINOLOGY. <https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/terminology>.

142. United Nations. n.d. Negotiations. <https://www.un.org/en/model-united-nations/negotiation>.

143. United Nations Peacekeeping. n.d. TERMINOLOGY. <https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/terminology>.

NEGATIVE PEACE¹⁴⁴

- Negative peace is defined by the absence of war and violence.

POSITIVE PEACE¹⁴⁵

- Positive peace is defined by a more lasting peace, built on sustainable investments in economic development and institutions as well as the societal attitudes that foster peace.

PREVENTIVE PEACEBUILDING¹⁴⁶

- Preventive peacebuilding is the totality of measures adopted to avert the escalation of conflict or the eruption of violent conflict, using a multi-tool approach.

RESTORATION OF PEACE¹⁴⁷

- Peaceful efforts deployed with a view to ending or preventing a conflict or keeping it from spreading, by assisting hostile parties in reaching an agreement. These efforts generally include diplomatic techniques such as negotiation.

SEX¹⁴⁸

- Sex refers to the biological characteristics of women and men. These characteristics are usually permanent and immutable biological characteristics common to individuals in all societies and cultures. Gender refers to the social attributes associated with being male and female, which are learned through socialization and determine a person's position and value in any given context. Gender, although it originates in objective biological divergences, goes far beyond the physiological and biological specifics of the two sexes in terms of the roles each is expected to play.

SEXUALITY¹⁴⁹

- Fundamental aspect of human life, involving sex, identities and roles associated with gender, sexual orientation, eroticism, pleasure, intimacy and reproduction. Sexuality is experienced and expressed through thoughts, fantasies, desires, beliefs, attitudes, values, behaviors, practices, roles and relations.

144. Peace, Johan Galtung - A Mini Theory of. n.d. "A Mini Theory of Peace ." Galtung-Institute. <https://www.galtung-institut.de/wp-content/uploads/2014/11/Mini-Theory-of-Peace.pdf>.

145. Peace, Johan Galtung - A Mini Theory of. n.d. "A Mini Theory of Peace ." Galtung-Institute. <https://www.galtung-institut.de/wp-content/uploads/2014/11/Mini-Theory-of-Peace.pdf>.

146. United Nations. n.d. UN Peacebuilding: an Orientation. www.un.org.peacebuilding/files/documents/peacebuilding_orientation.pdf.

147. United Nations Peacekeeping. n.d. TERMINOLOGY. <https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/terminology#:~:text=It%20is%20used%20to%20restore,peace%20or%20act%20of%20aggression>.

148. Council of Europe. n.d. Sex and gender. <https://www.coe.int/en/web/gender-matters/sex-and-gender>.

149. Council of Europe. n.d. Sexuality. <https://www.coe.int/en/web/gender-matters/sexuality>.

SEXUAL ASSAULT¹⁵⁰

- It is an unlawful and intentional engagement in sexual activity against a person's consent. Sexual assault is a violation of bodily integrity and sexual autonomy and is broader than the narrower conception of "rape", especially because it may be committed by other means than force or violence, for example through threats or abuse of unequal power between the aggressor and the victim.

SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND RIGHTS¹⁵¹

- Women's sexual and reproductive health is related to multiple human rights, including the right to life, the right to be free from torture, the right to health, the right to privacy, the right to education, and the prohibition of discrimination. The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR) and the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) have both clearly indicated that women's right to health includes their sexual and reproductive health.

SEX-DISAGGREGATED DATA¹⁵²

- Sex-disaggregated data is data that is cross-classified by sex, presenting information separately for men and women, boys and girls. Sex-disaggregated data reflects roles, real situations, general conditions of women and men, girls and boys in every aspect of a given society. Gender disaggregated data goes even further by unpacking the intersectional differences between women and men. This type of analysis looks at the differences between older women and younger women, women across ethnicities and regions etc. It provides for a deeper analysis of data. In order to carry out a gender analysis, sex-disaggregated data must be gathered. Sex-disaggregated data involves the separate collection and presentation of statistical information on women, men, girls and boys. Gender is just one of a range of factors determining individuals' roles in any given society, others include age, religion, and ethnicity. For example, by using a gender perspective (a gender analysis coupled with sex-disaggregated data), situational awareness in any military mission area of operation can be significantly enhanced.

SEXUAL EXPLOITATION¹⁵³

- Any actual or attempted abuse of position of vulnerability, differential power or trust, for sexual purposes, including, but not limited to, profiting monetarily, socially

150. United Nations. n.d. "Glossary on Sexual Exploitation and Abuse." Thematic Glossary of current terminology related to Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA) in the context of the United Nations . https://hr.un.org/sites/hr.un.org/files/SEA%20Glossary%20%20%5BSecond%20Edition%20-%202017%5D%20-%20English_0.pdf.

151. United Nations. n.d. "Sexual and reproductive health and rights." OHCHR and women's human rights and gender equality. <https://www.ohchr.org/en/women/sexual-and-reproductive-health-and-rights>.

152. European Institute for Gender Equality. n.d. Sex-disaggregated data. <https://eige.europa.eu/gender-mainstreaming/methods-tools/sex-disaggregated-data>.

153. United Nations. n.d. "Glossary on Sexual Exploitation and Abuse." Thematic Glossary of current terminology related to Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA) in the context of the United Nations . https://hr.un.org/sites/hr.un.org/files/SEA%20Glossary%20%20%5BSecond%20Edition%20-%202017%5D%20-%20English_0.pdf.

or politically from the sexual exploitation of another.

SEXUAL EXPLOITATION AND ABUSE (SEA)¹⁵⁴

- Sexual exploitation refers to any actual or attempted abuse of a position of vulnerability, differential power or trust for sexual purposes, including but not limited to, profiting monetarily, socially or politically from the sexual exploitation of another. Some forms of forced and /or coerced prostitution can fall under this category. Sexual abuse refers to the actual or threatened physical intrusion of a sexual nature, whether by force or under unequal or coercive conditions.
- SEA involves the abuse of a position of power. The UN defines sexual abuse as any abuse of position of vulnerability, differential power, or trust for sexual purposes; this includes profiting monetarily, socially, or politically from the sexual exploitation of another. NATO defines exploitation (whether sexual or gender based) as including, at a minimum, taking advantage of the prostitution of others or other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labor, or services, slavery or practices similar to slavery, as well as threat of use of force or other forms of coercion, of abduction, of deception, of the abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability or the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to obtain the consent of a person having control over another person, for the purposes of such exploitation.

SEXUAL HARASSMENT¹⁵⁵

- Sexual harassment is a form of sexual violence. The term refers to unwanted and unwelcome behavior where sexuality and/or varied cultural constructions of sexuality are used as the means to oppress and position people and to produce or maintain vulnerability among them. Sexual harassment is often divided into two types: quid pro quo harassment and hostile environment harassment. The difference between these two types of harassment is that in quid pro quo harassment, sex is provided in exchange for things such as employment or educational benefit, job promotion or good grades. Hostile environment harassment refers to sexual harassment that creates an intimidating, hostile or offensive environment generally for a whole group of people including women, young women, some ethnic groupings of women or some groups of men, for example. Sexual harassment can range from acts of unsolicited physical contact to actual assaults.

SEXUAL ORIENTATION¹⁵⁶

- Sexual orientation refers to a person's physical, romantic and/or emotional

154. UN Refugee Agency. n.d. What is Sexual Exploitation, Abuse and Harassment? <https://www.unhcr.org/what-is-sexual-exploitation-abuse-and-harassment.html>.

155. United Nations. n.d. "Glossary on Sexual Exploitation and Abuse." Thematic Glossary of current terminology related to Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA) in the context of the United Nations . https://hr.un.org/sites/hr.un.org/files/SEA%20Glossary%20%20%5BSecond%20Edition%20-%202017%5D%20-%20English_0.pdf.

156. United Nations. n.d. DEFINITIONS. <https://www.unfe.org/definitions/#:~:text=Sexual%20orientation%20refers%20to%20a,emotional%20attraction%20towards%20other%20people>.

attraction towards other people. Everyone has a sexual orientation, which is part of their identity.

SEXUAL RIGHTS¹⁵⁷

- Human rights related to sexual freedom, recognized in national laws, international human rights documents, and other consensus documents. They include the right of any individual to be free of coercion, discrimination and violence, for instance rape, early marriage and forced marriage.

SEXUAL VIOLENCE¹⁵⁸

- Can take multiple forms, including rape, attempted rape, forced prostitution, sexual exploitation and abuse, trafficking for the purpose of sexual exploitation, child pornography, child prostitution, sexual slavery, forced marriage, forced pregnancy, forced public nudity, forced virginity testing, etc.

SOCIAL JUSTICE¹⁵⁹

- Refers to the notion of creating a society based on principles of equality, democracy and solidarity, which understands human rights, values them and recognizes the dignity of each human being.

SUBSTANTIVE EQUALITY (EQUITY)¹⁶⁰

- A situation where laws and policies take into account differential needs, pre-existing inequalities and historical marginalization of particular groups, and include provisions that do not treat everyone the same, rather enabling any person to equally enjoy all their rights and opportunities, regardless of their sex, race, religion or any other circumstance

TERRORISM¹⁶¹

- Criminal acts intended or calculated to provoke a state of terror in the general public, a group of persons or particular persons for political purposes are in any circumstance unjustifiable, whatever the considerations of a political, philosophical,

157. Eszter Kismödi, Esther Corona, Eleanor Maticka-Tyndale, Eusebio Rubio-Aurioles & Eli Coleman. 2017. "Sexual Rights as Human Rights: A Guide for the WAS Declaration of Sexual Rights." International Journal of Sexual Health Volume 29.

158. United Nations. n.d. "Glossary on Sexual Exploitation and Abuse." Thematic Glossary of current terminology related to Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA) in the context of the United Nations . https://hr.un.org/sites/hr.un.org/files/SEA%20Glossary%20%20%5BSecond%20Edition%20-%202017%5D%20-%20English_0.pdf.

159. United Nations. n.d. On World Social Justice Day, the UN labour agency says 'put people and planet first'. <https://news.un.org/en/story/2020/02/1057811>.

160. United Nations. n.d. "General recommendation No. 25, on article 4, paragraph 1, of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, on temporary special measures." The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW). [https://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/cedaw/recommendations/General%20recommendation%2025%20\(English\).pdf](https://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/cedaw/recommendations/General%20recommendation%2025%20(English).pdf).

161. Perera, Rohan. n.d. "Declaration on Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism (1994)." <https://legal.un.org>.

ideological, racial, ethnic, religious or any other nature that may be invoked to justify them.

TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS¹⁶²

- Trafficking in persons refers to the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harboring and receipt of persons in end-institutions. Trafficking may be carried out for various reasons, including sexual exploitation, and is often achieved through blatant force or more subtle incentives that capitalize on vulnerability in order to achieve ‘consent’.

TRANSITIONAL JUSTICE¹⁶³

- Relates to the process of finding truth and reconciliation in order to enable peace and reduce risks of perpetuating a conflict through legal proceedings in its aftermath, in addition to bringing perpetrators to justice and providing reparations.

TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION COMMISSION¹⁶⁴

- An official body, usually set up by states after periods of state-perpetrated violence, whose main task is to establish a record of wrongdoing as part of an overall process of catharsis and reconciliation. Such commissions are sometimes empowered to grant full or partial amnesty in exchange for full disclosure, but this practice is rare. Some commissions also address issues of reparation and rehabilitation.

UNSCR 1325¹⁶⁵

- UN Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security (UNSCR 1325) and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) are both critical tools for moving gender equality forward in conflict and post-conflict situations. UNSCR 1325 helps to broaden the scope of CEDAW’s application by clarifying its relevance to all parties in conflict and in peace. CEDAW, in turn, provides concrete strategic guidance for actions to be taken on the broad commitments outlined in UNSCR 1325. Drawing on these instruments together enables maximization of the impact of norms and standards for gender equality in all conflict and post-conflict interventions.

162. United Nations. n.d. “TRAFFICKING-RELATED DEFINITIONS.” UNODC. https://www.unodc.org/documents/human-trafficking/Toolkit-files/08-58296_tool_1-1.pdf.

163. United Nations. n.d. “TRANSITIONAL JUSTICE AND ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL RIGHTS.” United Nations (Office for the High Commissioner on Human Rights). <https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Publications/HR-PUB-13-05.pdf>.

164. Oxford Reference. n.d. Truth and Reconciliation Commission. <https://www.oxfordreference.com/display/10.1093/oi/authority.20110803105953833?jsessionid=9B66FD4CCF8DC9AB521ADE069D9D5428>.

165. United Nations (UN). 2000. “Resolution 1325.” United Nations Security Council. Accessed November 24, 2022. <http://unscr.com/en/resolutions/doc/1325>.

NATIONAL ACTION PLAN (NAP) ON UNSCR 1325¹⁶⁶

- Formal document adopted by a government in fulfilment of its obligations under Security Council Resolution 1325 and related resolutions on Women, Peace and Security.

VICTIM¹⁶⁷

- Person who is, or has been, sexually exploited, abused or harassed.

VIOLENCE¹⁶⁸

CRSV (Conflict-Related Sexual Violence)¹⁶⁹

- Sexual violence, when used or commissioned as a tactic of war in order to deliberately target civilians or as a part of a widespread or systematic attack against civilian populations, can significantly exacerbate situations of armed conflict and may impede the restoration of international peace and security.
- Under international law there are eight different forms of conflict-related sexual violence: rape; sexual slavery; prostitution; forced pregnancy; forced abortion; enforced sterilization; forced marriage; any other form of sexual violence of comparable gravity. United Nations Security Council Resolution 1820 (2008) on Women, Peace and Security highlighted that sexual violence may threaten international security when used or commissioned as a tactic of war in order to deliberately target civilians, or as part of a widespread or systematic attack against civilian populations.

CR-SGBV (Conflict-Related Sexual and Gender Based Violence)¹⁷⁰

- NATO defines conflict-related sexual and gender-based violence as “any sexual and/or gender-based violence against an individual or group of individuals, used or commissioned in relation to a crisis or an armed conflict”.

GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE (GBV)¹⁷¹

- Gender-based violence (GBV) is an umbrella term for any harmful act that is

166. United Nations. n.d. National action plans on business and human rights. <https://www.ohchr.org/en/special-procedures/wg-business/national-action-plans-business-and-human-rights>.

167. United Nations. n.d. “Glossary on Sexual Exploitation and Abuse.” Thematic Glossary of current terminology related to Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA) in the context of the United Nations. https://hr.un.org/sites/hr.un.org/files/SEA%20Glossary%20%20%5BSecond%20Edition%20-%202017%5D%20-%20English_0.pdf.

168. World Health Organisation (WHO). n.d. National Library of Medicine. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC2652990/>.

169. United Nations Peacekeeping. n.d. CONFLICT-RELATED SEXUAL VIOLENCE. Accessed November 28, 2022. <https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/conflict-related-sexual-violence#:~:text=%E2%80%9CThe%20term%20%E2%80%9Cconflict%2Drelated,directly%20or%20indirectly%20linked%20to>.

170. United Nations. n.d. UN Action against Sexual Violence in Conflict. Accessed November 28, 2022. <https://www.un.org/sexualviolenceinconflict/about-us/un-action/>.

171. United Nations. n.d. Gender-based Violence. https://www.unhcr.org/gbv-toolkit/_test/.

perpetrated against a person's will and that is based on socially ascribed (gender) differences between females and males. The nature and extent of specific types of GBV vary across cultures, countries and regions. Examples include sexual violence, including sexual exploitation/abuse and forced prostitution; domestic violence; trafficking; forced/early marriage; harmful traditional practices such as female genital mutilation; honor killings; and widow disinheritance. There are different kinds of violence, including (but not limited to) physical, verbal, sexual, psychological, and socioeconomic violence.

- **Physical violence:** Physical violence is any act attempting to or resulting in pain and/or physical injury. It includes beating, burning, kicking, punching, biting, maiming, etc.
- **Verbal violence:** Verbal abuse can include any words or terms used to intimidate or threaten. On other occasions the verbal abuse is related to the background of the victim, insulting or threatening her on the basis of her religion, culture, language, (perceived) sexual orientation or traditions.
- **Sexual violence:** Sexual violence can include rape, marital rape and/or attempted rape, forced pregnancy, forced abortion, forced sterilization.
- **Psychological violence:** Psychological violence can include, for example, threatening behaviors that do not necessarily involve physical violence or even verbal abuse. Psychological violence may also be perpetrated through isolation or confinement, withholding information, disinformation, etc.

SEXUAL VIOLENCE¹⁷²

- A form of gender-based violence, sexual violence refers to any act, attempt, or threat of a sexual nature that results, or is likely to result in, physical or psychological harm. It can take multiple forms, including rape, attempted rape, forced prostitution, sexual exploitation and abuse, trafficking for the purpose of sexual exploitation, child pornography, child prostitution, sexual slavery, forced marriage, forced pregnancy, forced public nudity, forced virginity testing, etc.

STRUCTURAL VIOLENCE¹⁷³

- Systematic exploitation that becomes part of the social order, which makes personal violence unnecessary, and diminishes the potential development of an individual or a group.

172. United Nations. n.d. "Glossary on Sexual Exploitation and Abuse." Thematic Glossary of current terminology related to Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA) in the context of the United Nations . https://hr.un.org/sites/hr.un.org/files/SEA%20Glossary%20%20%5BSecond%20Edition%20-%202017%5D%20-%20English_0.pdf.

173. United Nations. n.d. "Glossary on Sexual Exploitation and Abuse." Thematic Glossary of current terminology related to Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA) in the context of the United Nations . https://hr.un.org/sites/hr.un.org/files/SEA%20Glossary%20%20%5BSecond%20Edition%20-%202017%5D%20-%20English_0.pdf.

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN¹⁷⁴

- Encompasses, but is not limited to, the following forms of violence: physical, sexual and psychological violence occurring in the family, including battering, sexual abuse of female children in the household; verbal violence, economic violence, symbolic violence, dowry-related violence, marital rape, female genital mutilation and other traditional practices harmful to women; non-spousal violence and violence related to exploitation; physical, sexual and psychological violence occurring within the general community, including rape, sexual abuse, sexual harassment and intimidation at work, in educational institutions and elsewhere; trafficking in women and forced prostitution; physical, sexual and psychological violence perpetrated or condoned by the State, wherever it occurs.

VIOLENT EXTREMISM¹⁷⁵

- This is the use of violent means to achieve some ideological, religious or political ambitions.

WAR¹⁷⁶

- Situation of armed conflict between several political groups established as States.

WAR CRIMES¹⁷⁷

- War crimes are those violations of international humanitarian law (treaty or customary law) that incur individual criminal responsibility under international law. As a result, and in contrast to the crimes of genocide and crimes against humanity, war crimes must always take place in the context of an armed conflict, either international or non-international.

WHISTLE-BLOWER (OR COMPLAINANT)¹⁷⁸

- A person (for example a United Nations staff or related personnel) who reports an occurrence of sexual exploitation or abuse internally or to people (for example journalists) outside of that organization.

174. United Nations. n.d. "Glossary on Sexual Exploitation and Abuse." Thematic Glossary of current terminology related to Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA) in the context of the United Nations . https://hr.un.org/sites/hr.un.org/files/SEA%20Glossary%20%20%5BSecond%20Edition%20-%202017%5D%20-%20English_0.pdf.

175. United Nations. n.d. "'Radicalization' and 'violent extremism'." UNODC. [https://www.unodc.org/e4j/zh/terrorism/module-2/key-issues/radicalization-violent-extremism.html#:~:text=USA%20\(3*\)%3A%20The%20FBI,engaging%20in%2C%20preparing%2C%20or%20otherwise](https://www.unodc.org/e4j/zh/terrorism/module-2/key-issues/radicalization-violent-extremism.html#:~:text=USA%20(3*)%3A%20The%20FBI,engaging%20in%2C%20preparing%2C%20or%20otherwise).

176. Greenwood, Christopher. 1987. *The Concept of War in Modern International Law*. The International and Comparative Law Quarterly, Cambridge University Press.

177. International Criminal Court. n.d. "Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court." <https://www.icc-cpi.int/sites/default/files/RS-Eng.pdf>.

178. United Nations. n.d. "Glossary on Sexual Exploitation and Abuse." Thematic Glossary of current terminology related to Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA) in the context of the United Nations . https://hr.un.org/sites/hr.un.org/files/SEA%20Glossary%20%20%5BSecond%20Edition%20-%202017%5D%20-%20English_0.pdf.

WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT¹⁷⁹

- A critical aspect of promoting gender equality is the empowerment of women, with a focus on redressing power imbalances and supporting women's autonomy and ability to manage their own lives. Women's empowerment is vital to peace and security, sustainable development and the realization of human rights for all. Peace operations support the empowerment of women through their work supporting gender equality and the WPS mandates.

WOMEN-INCLUSIVE PARTICIPATION¹⁸⁰

- Participation of women in peace negotiation teams and inclusion of gendered issues in peace agreements at the local level.

WOMEN, PEACE AND SECURITY AGENDA¹⁸¹

- The United Nations Security Council has adopted ten resolutions that comprise the Women, Peace and Security (WPS) - 1325 (2000), 1820 (2008), 1888 (2009), 1889 (2009), 1960 (2010), 2106, (2013), 2122 (2013), 2242 (2015), 2467 (2019), and 2493 (2019). The term WPS is used to highlight the linkage between women's roles and experiences in conflict and peace and security. Obligations in these resolutions extend from the international to the local level, and include intergovernmental organizations, such as the United Nations, to national governments.
- The WPS mandates are the blueprint for all work conducted on gender in peace operations.

WOMEN'S POLITICAL PARTICIPATION¹⁸²

- Women's political participation refers to women's ability to participate equally with men, at all levels, and in all aspects of political life and decision-making. Women's participation and access to formal political power structures varies across countries. There is a steady upward trend in women's political participation and representation in developed countries, particularly in Nordic countries. Recent research has highlighted that out of twelve countries where women representation in parliament is more than 33%, nine of them are ranked in the high human development category. The structural and functional constraints faced by women are shaped by

179. United Nations. n.d. Goal 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls. <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/gender-equality/>.

180. United Nations (Peacemaker). n.d. Women's Participation. <https://peacemaker.un.org/wps/womens-participation>.

181. UN Women. n.d. Women, peace and security. https://www.unwomen.org/en/news-stories/in-focus/2022/10/in-focus-women-peace-and-security?gclid=Cj0KCQiAtICdChCLARIsALUBFcHtSR-lyF6oD_37CaF3HLUHAPdewj0bpStyH-5uFBmBUFUhzYpUp7caArkfEALw_wcB.

182. United Nations. n.d. "Women's Political Participation: Issues and Challenges." Division for the Advancement of Women (DAW). <https://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/egm/enabling-environment2005/docs/EGM-WPD-EE-2005-EP.12%20%20draft%20F.pdf>.

social and political relations in a society. The common pattern of women's political exclusion stems from (a) social and political discourses (b) political structures and institutions (c) the socio-cultural and functional constraints that put limits on women's individual and collective agency. Participation is a core element of gender equality. Eliminating discrimination against women in political and public life means ensuring women have the right to vote in all elections, be eligible for election to all publicly elected bodies, to participate in the formulation of government policy and to hold public office.

WOMEN'S RIGHTS¹⁸³

- Recognition of the human rights and for fundamental freedoms without distinction as to sex.

183. United Nations. n.d. Gender Equality. <https://www.un.org/en/global-issues/gender-equality>.

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SECTION 3

UNSC RESOLUTIONS ON WPS

Resolution 1325 (2000)

Adopted by the Security Council at its 4213th meeting, on 31 October 2000

The Security Council,

Recalling its resolutions 1261 (1999) of 25 August 1999, 1265 (1999) of 17 September 1999, 1296 (2000) of 19 April 2000 and 1314 (2000) of 11 August 2000, as well as relevant statements of its President and recalling also the statement of its President, to the press on the occasion of the United Nations Day for Women's Rights and International Peace of 8 March 2000 (SC/6816).

Recalling also the commitments of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (A/52/231) as well as those contained in the outcome document of the twenty-third Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: Gender Equality, Development and Peace for the twenty-first century" (A/S-23/10/Rev.1), in particular those concerning women and armed conflict.

Bearing in mind the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the primary responsibility of the Security Council under the Charter for the maintenance of international peace and security,

Expressing concern that civilians, particularly women and children, account for the vast majority of those adversely affected by armed conflict, including as refugees and internally displaced persons, and increasingly are targeted by combatants and armed elements, and recognizing the consequent impact this has on durable peace and reconciliation,

Reaffirming the important role of women in the prevention and resolution of conflicts and in peace-building, and stressing the importance of their equal participation and full involvement in all efforts for the maintenance and promotion of peace and security, and the need to increase their role in decision-making with regard to conflict prevention and resolution,

Reaffirming also the need to implement fully international humanitarian and human rights law that protects the rights of women and girls during and after conflicts,

Emphasizing the need for all parties to ensure that mine clearance and mine awareness programmes take into account the special needs of women and girls,

Recognizing the urgent need to mainstream a gender perspective into peacekeeping operations, and in this regard noting the Windhoek Declaration and the Namibia Plan of Action on Mainstreaming a Gender Perspective in Multidimensional Peace Support Operations (S/2000/693),

Recognizing also the importance of the recommendation contained in the statement of its President to the press of 8 March 2000 for specialized training for all

peacekeeping personnel on the protection, special needs and human rights of women and children in conflict situations,

Recognizing that an understanding of the impact of armed conflict on women and girls, effective institutional arrangements to guarantee their protection and full participation in the peace process can significantly contribute to the maintenance and promotion of international peace and security,

Noting the need to consolidate data on the impact of armed conflict on women and girls,

1. Urges Member States to ensure increased representation of women at all decision-making levels in national, regional and international institutions and mechanisms for the prevention, management, and resolution of conflict;
2. Encourages the Secretary-General to implement his strategic plan of action (A/49/587) calling for an increase in the participation of women at decision-making levels in conflict resolution and peace processes;
3. Urges the Secretary-General to appoint more women as special representatives and envoys to pursue good offices on his behalf, and in this regard calls on Member States to provide candidates to the Secretary-General, for inclusion in a regularly updated centralized roster;
4. Further urges the Secretary-General to seek to expand the role and contribution of women in United Nations field-based operations, and especially among military observers, civilian police, human rights and humanitarian personnel;
5. Expresses its willingness to incorporate a gender perspective into peacekeeping operations, and urges the Secretary-General to ensure that, where appropriate, field operations include a gender component;
6. Requests the Secretary-General to provide to Member States training guidelines and materials on the protection, rights and the particular needs of women, as well as on the importance of involving women in all peacekeeping and peace-building measures, invites Member States to incorporate these elements as well as HIV/AIDS awareness training into their national training programmes for military and civilian police personnel in preparation for deployment, and further requests the Secretary-General to ensure that civilian personnel of peacekeeping operations receive similar training;
7. Urges Member States to increase their voluntary financial, technical and logistical support for gender-sensitive training efforts, including those undertaken by relevant funds and programmes, inter alia, the United Nations Fund for Women and United Nations Children's Fund, and by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and other relevant bodies;
8. Calls on all actors involved, when negotiating and implementing peace

agreements, to adopt a gender perspective, including, inter alia:

(a) The special needs of women and girls during repatriation and resettlement and for rehabilitation, reintegration and post-conflict reconstruction;

(b) Measures that support local women's peace initiatives and indigenous processes for conflict resolution, and that involve women in all of the implementation mechanisms of the peace agreements;

(c) Measures that ensure the protection of and respect for human rights of women and girls, particularly as they relate to the constitution, the electoral system, the police and the judiciary;

9. Calls upon all parties to armed conflict to respect fully international law applicable to the rights and protection of women and girls, especially as civilians, in particular the obligations applicable to them under the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and the Additional Protocols thereto of 1977, the Refugee Convention of 1951 and the Protocol thereto of 1967, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women of 1979 and the Optional Protocol thereto of 1999 and the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child of 1989 and the two Optional Protocols thereto of 25 May 2000, and to bear in mind the relevant provisions of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court;

10. Calls on all parties to armed conflict to take special measures to protect women and girls from gender-based violence, particularly rape and other forms of sexual abuse, and all other forms of violence in situations of armed conflict;

11. Emphasizes the responsibility of all States to put an end to impunity and to prosecute those responsible for genocide, crimes against humanity, and war crimes including those relating to sexual and other violence against women and girls, and in this regard stresses the need to exclude these crimes, where feasible from amnesty provisions;

12. Calls upon all parties to armed conflict to respect the civilian and humanitarian character of refugee camps and settlements, and to take into account the particular needs of women and girls, including in their design, and recalls its resolutions 1208 (1998) of 19 November 1998 and 1296 (2000) of 19 April 2000;

13. Encourages all those involved in the planning for disarmament, demobilization and reintegration to consider the different needs of female and male ex-combatants and to take into account the needs of their dependants;

14. Reaffirms its readiness, whenever measures are adopted under Article 41 of the Charter of the United Nations, to give consideration to their potential impact on the civilian population, bearing in mind the special needs of women and girls, in order to consider appropriate humanitarian exemptions;

15. Expresses its willingness to ensure that Security Council missions take into account gender considerations and the rights of women, including through consultation with local and international women's groups;

16. Invites the Secretary-General to carry out a study on the impact of armed conflict on women and girls, the role of women in peace-building and the gender dimensions of peace processes and conflict resolution, and further invites him to submit a report to the Security Council on the results of this study and to make this available to all Member States of the United Nations;

17. Requests the Secretary-General, where appropriate, to include in his reporting to the Security Council progress on gender mainstreaming throughout peacekeeping missions and all other aspects relating to women and girls;

18. Decides to remain actively seized of the matter.

Security Council Resolution 1820 (2008)

“The Security Council,

Reaffirming its commitment to the continuing and full implementation of resolution 1325 (2000), 1612 (2005) and 1674 (2006) and recalling the Statements of its president of 31 October 2001 (Security Council/PRST/2001/31), 31 October 2002 (Security Council/PRST/2002/32), 28 October 2004 (Security Council/PRST/2004/40), 27 October 2005 (Security Council/PRST/2005/52), 8 November 2006 (Security Council/PRST/2006/42), 7 March 2007 (Security Council/PRST/2007/5), and 24 October 2007 (Security Council/PRST/2007/40); Guided by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

Reaffirming also the resolve expressed in the 2005 World Summit Outcome Document to eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls, including by ending impunity and by ensuring the protection of civilians, in particular women and girls, during and after armed conflicts, in accordance with the obligations States have undertaken under international humanitarian law and international human rights law;

Recalling the commitments of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (A/52/231) as well as those contained in the outcome document of the twenty-third Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly entitled “Women 2000: Gender Equality, Development and Peace for the Twenty-first Century” (A/S-23/10/Rev.1), in particular those concerning sexual violence and women in situations of armed conflict;

Reaffirming also the obligations of States Parties to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, the Optional Protocol thereto, the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Optional Protocols thereto, and urging states that have not yet done so to consider ratifying or acceding to them,

Noting that civilians account for the vast majority of those adversely affected by armed conflict; that women and girls are particularly targeted by the use of sexual violence, including as a tactic of war to humiliate, dominate, instill fear in, disperse and/or forcibly relocate civilian members of a community or ethnic group; and that sexual violence perpetrated in this manner may in some instances persist after the cessation of hostilities;

Recalling its condemnation in the strongest terms of all sexual and other forms of violence committed against civilians in armed conflict, in particular women and children;

Reiterating deep concern that, despite its repeated condemnation of violence against women and children in situations of armed conflict, including sexual violence in situations of armed conflict, and despite its calls addressed to all parties to armed conflict for the cessation of such acts with immediate effect, such acts continue to occur, and in some situations have become systematic and widespread, reaching appalling levels of

brutality,

Recalling the inclusion of a range of sexual violence offenses in the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court and the statutes of the ad hoc international criminal tribunals,

Reaffirming the important role of women in the prevention and resolution of conflicts and in peacebuilding, and stressing the importance of their equal participation and full involvement in all efforts for the maintenance and promotion of peace and security, and the need to increase their role in decision-making with regard to conflict prevention and resolution,

Deeply concerned also about the persistent obstacles and challenges to women's participation and full involvement in the prevention and resolution of conflicts as a result of violence, intimidation and discrimination, which erode women's capacity and legitimacy to participate in post-conflict public life, and acknowledging the negative impact this has on durable peace, security and reconciliation, including post-conflict peacebuilding,

Recognizing that States bear primary responsibility to respect and ensure the human rights of their citizens, as well as all individuals within their territory as provided for by relevant international law,

Reaffirming that parties to armed conflict bear the primary responsibility to take all feasible steps to ensure the protection of affected civilians,

Welcoming the ongoing coordination of efforts within the United Nations system, marked by the inter-agency initiative "United Nations Action against Sexual Violence in Conflict," to create awareness about sexual violence in armed conflicts and post-conflict situations and, ultimately, to put an end to it,

1. Stresses that sexual violence, when used or commissioned as a tactic of war in order to deliberately target civilians or as a part of a widespread or systematic attack against civilian populations, can significantly exacerbate situations of armed conflict and may impede the restoration of international peace and security, affirms in this regard that effective steps to prevent and respond to such acts of sexual violence can significantly contribute to the maintenance of international peace and security, and expresses its readiness, when considering situations on the agenda of the Council, to, where necessary, adopt appropriate steps to address widespread or systematic sexual violence;
2. Demands the immediate and complete cessation by all parties to armed conflict of all acts of sexual violence against civilians with immediate effect;
3. Demands that all parties to armed conflict immediately take appropriate measures to protect civilians, including women and girls, from all forms of sexual violence, which could include, inter alia, enforcing appropriate military disciplinary measures and upholding the principle of command responsibility, training troops on

the categorical prohibition of all forms of sexual violence against civilians, debunking myths that fuel sexual violence, vetting armed and security forces to take into account past actions of rape and other forms of sexual violence, and evacuation of women and children under imminent threat of sexual violence to safety; and requests the Secretary-General, where appropriate, to encourage dialogue to address this issue in the context of broader discussions of conflict resolution between appropriate UN officials and the parties to the conflict, taking into account, inter alia, the views expressed by women of affected local communities;

4. Notes that rape and other forms of sexual violence can constitute a war crime, a crime against humanity, or a constitutive act with respect to genocide, stresses the need for the exclusion of sexual violence crimes from amnesty provisions in the context of conflict resolution processes, and calls upon Member States to comply with their obligations for prosecuting persons responsible for such acts, to ensure that all victims of sexual violence, particularly women and girls, have equal protection under the law and equal access to justice, and stresses the importance of ending impunity for such acts as part of a comprehensive approach to seeking sustainable peace, justice, truth, and national reconciliation;

5. Affirms its intention, when establishing and renewing state-specific sanctions regimes, to take into consideration the appropriateness of targeted and graduated measures against parties to situations of armed conflict who commit rape and other forms of sexual violence against women and girls in situations of armed conflict;

6. Requests the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Security Council, the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations and its Working Group and relevant States, as appropriate, to develop and implement appropriate training programs for all peacekeeping and humanitarian personnel deployed by the United Nations in the context of missions as mandated by the Council to help them better prevent, recognize and respond to sexual violence and other forms of violence against civilians;

7. Requests the Secretary-General to continue and strengthen efforts to implement the policy of zero tolerance of sexual exploitation and abuse in United Nations peacekeeping operations; and urges troop and police contributing countries to take appropriate preventative action, including pre-deployment and in-theater awareness training, and other action to ensure full accountability in cases of such conduct involving their personnel;

8. Encourages troop and police contributing countries, in consultation with the Secretary-General, to consider steps they could take to heighten awareness and the responsiveness of their personnel participating in UN peacekeeping operations to protect civilians, including women and children, and prevent sexual violence against women and girls in conflict and post-conflict situations, including wherever possible the deployment of a higher percentage of women peacekeepers or police;

9. Requests the Secretary-General to develop effective guidelines and strategies to enhance the ability of relevant UN peacekeeping operations, consistent with their mandates, to protect civilians, including women and girls, from all forms of sexual violence and to systematically include in his written reports to the Council on conflict situations his observations concerning the protection of women and girls and recommendations in this regard;

10. Requests the Secretary-General and relevant United Nations agencies, inter alia, through consultation with women and women-led organizations as appropriate, to develop effective mechanisms for providing protection from violence, including in particular sexual violence, to women and girls in and around UN managed refugee and internally displaced persons camps, as well as in all disarmament, demobilization, and reintegration processes, and in justice and security sector reform efforts assisted by the United Nations;

11. Stresses the important role the Peacebuilding Commission can play by including in its advice and recommendations for post-conflict peacebuilding strategies, where appropriate, ways to address sexual violence committed during and in the aftermath of armed conflict, and in ensuring consultation and effective representation of women's civil society in its country-specific configurations, as part of its wider approach to gender issues;

12. Urges the Secretary-General and his Special Envoys to invite women to participate in discussions pertinent to the prevention and resolution of conflict, the maintenance of peace and security, and post-conflict peacebuilding, and encourages all parties to such talks to facilitate the equal and full participation of women at decision-making levels;

13. Urges all parties concerned, including Member States, United Nations entities and financial institutions, to support the development and strengthening of the capacities of national institutions, in particular of judicial and health systems, and of local civil society networks in order to provide sustainable assistance to victims of sexual violence in armed conflict and post-conflict situations;

14. Urges appropriate regional and sub-regional bodies in particular to consider developing and implementing policies, activities, and advocacy for the benefit of women and girls affected by sexual violence in armed conflict;

15. Also requests the Secretary-General to submit a report to the Council by 30 June 2009 on the implementation of this resolution in the context of situations which are on the agenda of the Council, utilizing information from available United Nations sources, including country teams, peacekeeping operations, and other United Nations personnel, which would include, inter alia, information on situations of armed conflict in which sexual violence has been widely or systematically employed against civilians; analysis of the prevalence and trends of sexual violence in situations of armed conflict; proposals for strategies to minimize the susceptibility of women

and girls to such violence; benchmarks for measuring progress in preventing and addressing sexual violence; appropriate input from United Nations implementing partners in the field; information on his plans for facilitating the collection of timely, objective, accurate, and reliable information on the use of sexual violence in situations of armed conflict, including through improved coordination of UN activities on the ground and at Headquarters; and information on actions taken by parties to armed conflict to implement their responsibilities as described in this resolution, in particular by immediately and completely ceasing all acts of sexual violence and in taking appropriate measures to protect women and girls from all forms of sexual violence;

16. Decides to remain actively seized of the matter.”

Security Council Resolution 1888 (2009)

“The Security Council,

Reaffirming its commitment to the continuing and full implementation of resolutions 1325 (2000), 1612 (2005), 1674 (2006), 1820 (2008) and 1882 (2009) and all relevant statements of its President,

Welcoming the report of the Secretary-General of 16 July 2009 (S/2009/362), but remaining deeply concerned over the lack of progress on the issue of sexual violence in situations of armed conflict in particular against women and children, notably against girls, and noting as documented in the Secretary-General’s report that sexual violence occurs in armed conflicts throughout the world,

Reiterating deep concern that, despite its repeated condemnation of violence against women and children including all forms of sexual violence in situations of armed conflict, and despite its calls addressed to all parties to armed conflict for the cessation of such acts with immediate effect, such acts continue to occur, and in some situations have become systematic or widespread,

Recalling the commitments of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (A/52/231) as well as those contained in the outcome document of the twenty-third Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly entitled “Women 2000: Gender Equality, Development and Peace for the Twenty-First Century” (A/S 23/10/Rev.1), in particular those concerning women and armed conflict,

Reaffirming the obligations of States parties to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, the Optional Protocol thereto, the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Optional Protocols thereto, and urging states that have not yet done so to consider ratifying or acceding to them,

Recalling that international humanitarian law affords general protection to women and children as part of the civilian population during armed conflicts and special protection due to the fact that they can be placed particularly at risk,

Recalling the responsibilities of States to end impunity and to prosecute those responsible for genocide, crimes against humanity, war crimes and other egregious crimes perpetrated against civilians, and in this regard, noting with concern that only limited numbers of perpetrators of sexual violence have been brought to justice, while recognizing that in conflict and in post conflict situations national justice systems may be significantly weakened,

Reaffirming that ending impunity is essential if a society in conflict or recovering from conflict is to come to terms with past abuses committed against civilians affected by armed conflict and to prevent future such abuses, drawing attention to the full range of justice and reconciliation mechanisms to be considered, including national, international

and “mixed” criminal courts and tribunals and truth and reconciliation commissions, and noting that such mechanisms can promote not only individual responsibility for serious crimes, but also peace, truth, reconciliation and the rights of the victims,

Recalling the inclusion of a range of sexual violence offences in the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court and the statutes of the ad hoc international criminal tribunals,

Stressing the necessity for all States and non-State parties to conflicts to comply fully with their obligations under applicable international law, including the prohibition on all forms of sexual violence,

Recognizing the need for civilian and military leaders, consistent with the principle of command responsibility, to demonstrate commitment and political will to prevent sexual violence and to combat impunity and enforce accountability, and that inaction can send a message that the incidence of sexual violence in conflicts is tolerated,

Emphasizing the importance of addressing sexual violence issues from the outset of peace processes and mediation efforts, in order to protect populations at risk and promote full stability, in particular in the areas of pre-ceasefire humanitarian access and human rights agreements, ceasefires and ceasefire monitoring, disarmament, demobilization and reintegration (DDR), security sector reform (SSR) arrangements, justice and reparations, post-conflict recovery and development,

Noting with concern the underrepresentation of women in formal peace processes, the lack of mediators and ceasefire monitors with proper training in dealing with sexual violence, and the lack of women as Chief or Lead peace mediators in United Nations-sponsored peace talks,

Recognizing that the promotion and empowerment of women and that support for women’s organizations and networks are essential in the consolidation of peace to promote the equal and full participation of women and encouraging Member States, donors, and civil society, including non-governmental organizations, to provide support in this respect,

Welcoming the inclusion of women in peacekeeping missions in civil, military and police functions, and recognizing that women and children affected by armed conflict may feel more secure working with and reporting abuse to women in peacekeeping missions, and that the presence of women peacekeepers may encourage local women to participate in the national armed and security forces, thereby helping to build a security sector that is accessible and responsive to all, especially women,

Welcoming the efforts of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations to develop gender guidelines for military personnel in peacekeeping operations to facilitate the implementation of resolutions 1325 (2000) and 1820 (2008), and operational guidance to assist civilian, military and police components of peacekeeping missions to effectively implement resolution 1820 (2008),

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General of 16 July 2009 (S/2009/362) and stressing that the present resolution does not seek to make any legal determination as to whether situations that are referred to in the Secretary-General's report are or are not armed conflicts within the context of the Geneva Conventions and the Additional Protocols thereto, nor does it prejudge the legal status of the non-State parties involved in these situations,

Recalling the Council's decision in resolution 1882 of 4 August 2009 (S/RES/1882) to expand the Annexed list in the Secretary General's annual report on Children and Armed Conflict of parties in situations of armed conflict engaged in the recruitment or use of children in violation of international law to also include those parties to armed conflict that engage, in contravention of applicable international law, in patterns of killing and maiming of children and/or rape and other sexual violence against children, in situations of armed conflict,

Noting the role currently assigned to the Office of the Special Adviser on Gender Issues to monitor implementation of resolution 1325 and to promote gender mainstreaming within the United Nations system, women's empowerment and gender equality, and expressing the importance of effective coordination within the United Nations system in these areas,

Recognizing that States bear the primary responsibility to respect and ensure the human rights of their citizens, as well as all individuals within their territory as provided for by relevant international law,

Reaffirming that parties to armed conflict bear the primary responsibility to take all feasible steps to ensure the protection of affected civilians,

Reiterating its primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security and, in this connection, its commitment to continue to address the widespread impact of armed conflict on civilians, including with regard to sexual violence,

1. Reaffirms that sexual violence, when used or commissioned as a tactic of war in order to deliberately target civilians or as a part of a widespread or systematic attack against civilian populations, can significantly exacerbate situations of armed conflict and may impede the restoration of international peace and security; affirms in this regard that effective steps to prevent and respond to such acts of sexual violence can significantly contribute to the maintenance of international peace and security; and expresses its readiness, when considering situations on the agenda of the Council, to take, where necessary, appropriate steps to address widespread or systematic sexual violence in situations of armed conflict;
2. Reiterates its demand for the complete cessation by all parties to armed conflict of all acts of sexual violence with immediate effect;
3. Demands that all parties to armed conflict immediately take appropriate measures to protect civilians, including women and children, from all forms of sexual

violence, including measures such as, inter alia, enforcing appropriate military disciplinary measures and upholding the principle of command responsibility, training troops on the categorical prohibition of all forms of sexual violence against civilians, debunking myths that fuel sexual violence and vetting candidates for national armies and security forces to ensure the exclusion of those associated with serious violations of international humanitarian and human rights law, including sexual violence;

4. Requests that the United Nations Secretary-General appoint a Special Representative to provide coherent and strategic leadership, to work effectively to strengthen existing United Nations coordination mechanisms, and to engage in advocacy efforts, inter alia with Governments, including military and judicial representatives, as well as with all parties to armed conflict and civil society, in order to address, at both headquarters and country level, sexual violence in armed conflict, while promoting cooperation and coordination of efforts among all relevant stakeholders, primarily through the inter-agency initiative “United Nations Action Against Sexual Violence in Conflict”;

5. Encourages the entities comprising UN Action against Sexual Violence in Conflict, as well as other relevant parts of the United Nations system, to support the work of the aforementioned Special Representative of the Secretary-General and to continue and enhance cooperation and information sharing among all relevant stakeholders in order to reinforce coordination and avoid overlap at the headquarters and country levels and improve system-wide response;

6. Urges States to undertake comprehensive legal and judicial reforms, as appropriate, in conformity with international law, without delay and with a view to bringing perpetrators of sexual violence in conflicts to justice and to ensuring that survivors have access to justice, are treated with dignity throughout the justice process and are protected and receive redress for their suffering;

7. Urges all parties to a conflict to ensure that all reports of sexual violence committed by civilians or by military personnel are thoroughly investigated and the alleged perpetrators brought to justice, and that civilian superiors and military commanders, in accordance with international humanitarian law, use their authority and powers to prevent sexual violence, including by combating impunity;

8. Calls upon the Secretary-General to identify and take the appropriate measures to deploy rapidly a team of experts to situations of particular concern with respect to sexual violence in armed conflict, working through the United Nations presence on the ground and with the consent of the host Government, to assist national authorities to strengthen the rule of law, and recommends making

use of existing human resources within the United Nations system and voluntary contributions, drawing upon requisite expertise, as appropriate, in the rule of law, civilian and military judicial systems, mediation, criminal investigation, security sector

reform, witness protection, fair trial standards, and public outreach; to, inter alia:

(a) Work closely with national legal and judicial officials and other personnel in the relevant Governments' civilian and military justice systems to address impunity, including by the strengthening of national capacity, and drawing attention to the full range of justice mechanisms to be considered;

(b) Identify gaps in national response and encourage a holistic national approach to address sexual violence in armed conflict, including by enhancing criminal accountability, responsiveness to victims, and judicial capacity;

(c) Make recommendations to coordinate domestic and international efforts and resources to reinforce the Government's ability to address sexual violence in armed conflict;

(d) Work with the United Nations Mission, Country Team, and the aforementioned Special Representative of the Secretary-General as appropriate towards the full implementation of the measures called for by resolution 1820 (2008);

9. Encourages States, relevant United Nations entities and civil society, as appropriate, to provide assistance in close cooperation with national authorities to build national capacity in the judicial and law enforcement systems in situations of particular concern with respect to sexual violence in armed conflict;

10. Reiterates its intention, when adopting or renewing targeted sanctions in situations of armed conflict, to consider including, where appropriate, designation criteria pertaining to acts of rape and other forms of sexual violence; and calls upon all peacekeeping and other relevant United Nations missions and United Nations bodies, in particular the Working Group on Children and Armed Conflict, to share with relevant United Nations Security Council sanctions committees, including through relevant United Nations Security Council Sanction Committees' monitoring groups and groups of experts, all pertinent information about sexual violence;

11. Expresses its intention to ensure that resolutions to establish or renew peacekeeping mandates contain provisions, as appropriate, on the prevention of, and response to, sexual violence, with corresponding reporting requirements to the Council;

12. Decides to include specific provisions, as appropriate, for the protection of women and children from rape and other sexual violence in the mandates of United Nations peacekeeping operations, including, on a case-by-case basis, the identification of women's protection advisers (WPAs) among gender advisers and human rights protection units, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that the need for, and the number and roles of WPAs are systematically assessed during the preparation of each United Nations peacekeeping operation;

13. Encourages States, with the support of the international community, to increase

access to health care, psychosocial support, legal assistance and socio-economic reintegration services for victims of sexual violence, in particular in rural areas;

14. Expresses its intention to make better usage of periodical field visits to conflict areas, through the organization of interactive meetings with the local women and women's organizations in the field about the concerns and needs of women in areas of armed conflict;

15. Encourages leaders at the national and local level, including traditional leaders where they exist and religious leaders, to play a more active role in sensitizing communities on sexual violence to avoid marginalization and stigmatization of victims, to assist with their social reintegration, and to combat a culture of impunity for these crimes;

16. Urges the Secretary-General, Member States and the heads of regional organizations to take measures to increase the representation of women in mediation processes and decision-making processes with regard to conflict resolution and peacebuilding;

17. Urges that issues of sexual violence be included in all United Nations-sponsored peace negotiation agendas, and also urges inclusion of sexual violence issues from the outset of peace processes in such situations, in particular in the areas of pre-ceasefires, humanitarian access and human rights agreements, ceasefires and ceasefire monitoring, DDR and SSR arrangements, vetting of armed and security forces, justice, reparations, and recovery/development;

18. Reaffirms the role of the Peacebuilding Commission in promoting inclusive gender-based approaches to reducing instability in post-conflict situations, noting the important role of women in rebuilding society, and urges the Peacebuilding Commission to encourage all parties in the countries on its agenda to incorporate and implement measures to reduce sexual violence in post-conflict strategies;

19. Encourages Member States to deploy greater numbers of female military and police personnel to United Nations peacekeeping operations, and to provide all military and police personnel with adequate training to carry out their responsibilities;

20. Requests the Secretary-General to ensure that technical support is provided to troop and police contributing countries, in order to include guidance for military and police personnel on addressing sexual violence in predeployment and induction training;

21. Requests the Secretary-General to continue and strengthen efforts to implement the policy of zero tolerance of sexual exploitation and abuse in United Nations peacekeeping operations; and urges troop- and police-contributing countries to take appropriate preventative action, including predeployment and in-theatre awareness training, and other action to ensure full accountability in cases of

such conduct involving their personnel;

22. Requests that the Secretary-General continue to direct all relevant United Nations entities to take specific measures to ensure systematic mainstreaming of gender issues within their respective institutions, including by ensuring allocation of adequate financial and human resources within all relevant offices and departments and on the ground, as well as to strengthen, within their respective mandates, their cooperation and coordination when addressing the issue of sexual violence in armed conflict;

23. Urges relevant Special Representatives and the Emergency Relief Coordinator of the Secretary-General, with strategic and technical support from the UN Action network, to work with Member States to develop joint Government-United Nations Comprehensive Strategies to Combat Sexual Violence, in consultation with all relevant stakeholders, and to regularly provide updates on this in their standard reporting to Headquarters;

24. Requests that the Secretary-General ensure more systematic reporting on incidents of trends, emerging patterns of attack, and early warning indicators of the use of sexual violence in armed conflict in all relevant reports to the Council, and encourages the Special Representatives of the Secretary-General, the Emergency Relief Coordinator, the High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Special Rapporteur on Violence against Women, and the Chairperson(s) of UN Action to provide, in coordination with the aforementioned Special Representative, additional briefings and documentation on sexual violence in armed conflict to the Council;

25. Requests the Secretary-General to include, where appropriate, in his regular reports on individual peacekeeping operations, information on steps taken to implement measures to protect civilians, particularly women and children, against sexual violence;

26. Requests the Secretary-General, taking into account the proposals contained in his report as well as any other relevant elements, to devise urgently and preferably within three months, specific proposals on ways to ensure monitoring and reporting in a more effective and efficient way within the existing United Nations system on the protection of women and children from rape and other sexual violence in armed conflict and post-conflict situations, utilizing expertise from the United Nations system and the contributions of national Governments, regional organizations, non-governmental organizations in their advisory capacity and various civil society actors, in order to provide timely, objective, accurate and reliable information on gaps in United Nations entities response, for consideration in taking appropriate action;

27. Requests that the Secretary-General continue to submit annual reports to the Council on the implementation of resolution 1820 (2008) and to submit his next report by September of 2010 on the implementation of this resolution and resolution 1820 (2008) to include, inter alia:

- (a) a detailed coordination and strategy plan on the timely and ethical collection of information;
 - (b) updates on efforts by United Nations Mission focal points on sexual violence to work closely with the Resident Coordination/Humanitarian Coordinator (RC/HC), the United Nations Country Team, and, where appropriate, the aforementioned Special Representative and/or the Team of Experts, to address sexual violence;
 - (c) information regarding parties to armed conflict that are credibly suspected of committing patterns of rape or other forms of sexual violence, in situations that are on the Council's agenda;
28. Decides to review, taking into account the process established by General Assembly resolution 63/311 regarding a United Nations composite gender entity, the mandates of the Special Representative requested in operative paragraph 4 and the Team of Experts in operative paragraph 8 within two years, and as appropriate thereafter;
29. Decides to remain actively seized of the matter.”

The Security Council unanimously adopted resolution 1889 (2009)

“The Security Council,

Reaffirming its commitment to the continuing and full implementation, in a mutually reinforcing manner, of resolutions 1325 (2000), 1612 (2005), 1674 (2006), 1820 (2008), 1882 (2009), 1888 (2009) and all relevant statements of its Presidents,

Guided by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, and bearing in mind the primary responsibility of the Security Council under the Charter for the maintenance of international peace and security,

Recalling the resolve expressed in the 2005 United Nations General Assembly World Summit Outcome Document (A/RES/60/1) to eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls, the obligations of States Parties to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women and the Optional Protocol thereto, the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Optional Protocols thereto, recalling also the commitments contained in the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action as well as those contained in the outcome document of the twenty-third Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly entitled “Women 2000: Gender Equality, Development and Peace for the Twenty-First Century” (A/S 23/10/Rev.1), in particular those concerning women and armed conflict,

Having considered the report of the Secretary General (S/2009/465) of 16 September 2009 and stressing that the present resolution does not seek to make any legal determination as to whether situations that are referred to in the Secretary-General’s report are or are not armed conflicts within the context of the Geneva Conventions and the Additional Protocols thereto, nor does it prejudge the legal status of the non-State parties involved in these situations,

Welcoming the efforts of Member States in implementing its resolution 1325 (2000) at the national level, including the development of national action plans, and encouraging Member States to continue to pursue such implementation,

Reiterating the need for the full, equal and effective participation of women at all stages of peace processes given their vital role in the prevention and resolution of conflict and peacebuilding, reaffirming the key role women can play in re establishing the fabric of recovering society and stressing the need for their involvement in the development and implementation of post-conflict strategies in order to take into account their perspectives and needs,

Expressing deep concern about the under-representation of women at all stages of peace processes, particularly the very low numbers of women in formal roles in mediation processes and stressing the need to ensure that women are appropriately appointed

at decision-making levels, as high level mediators, and within the composition of the mediators' teams,

Remaining deeply concerned about the persistent obstacles to women's full involvement in the prevention and resolution of conflicts and participation in post-conflict public life, as a result of violence and intimidation, lack of security and lack of rule of law, cultural discrimination and stigmatization, including the rise of extremist or fanatical views on women, and socio-economic factors including the lack of access to education, and in this respect, recognizing that the marginalization of women can delay or undermine the achievement of durable peace, security and reconciliation,

Recognizing the particular needs of women and girls in post-conflict situations, including, inter alia, physical security, health services including reproductive and mental health, ways to ensure their livelihoods, land and property rights, employment, as well as their participation in decision-making and post-conflict planning, particularly at early stages of post-conflict peacebuilding,

Noting that despite progress, obstacles to strengthening women's participation in conflict prevention, conflict resolution and peacebuilding remain, expressing concern that women's capacity to engage in public decision making and economic recovery often does not receive adequate recognition or financing in post-conflict situations, and underlining that funding for women's early recovery needs is vital to increase women's empowerment, which can contribute to effective post-conflict peacebuilding,

Noting that women in situations of armed conflict and post-conflict situations continue to be often considered as victims and not as actors in addressing and resolving situations of armed conflict and stressing the need to focus not only on protection of women but also on their empowerment in peacebuilding,

Recognizing that an understanding of the impact of situations of armed conflict on women and girls, including as refugees and internally displaced persons, adequate and rapid response to their particular needs, and effective institutional arrangements to guarantee their protection and full participation in the peace process, particularly at early stages of post-conflict peacebuilding, can significantly contribute to the maintenance and promotion of international peace and security,

Welcoming the United Nations initiative to develop a system similar to that pioneered by the United Nations Development Programme to allow decision-makers to track gender-related allocations in United Nations Development Group Multi Donor Trust Funds,

Welcoming the efforts of the Secretary-General to appoint more women to senior United Nations positions, particularly in field missions, as a tangible step towards providing United Nations leadership on implementation of its resolution 1325 (2000),

Welcoming the upcoming establishment of a United Nations Steering Committee to enhance visibility and strengthen coordination within the United Nations system

regarding the preparations for the 10th anniversary of resolution 1325 (2000),

Encouraging relevant actors to organize events during 2009-2010 at the global, regional and national levels to increase awareness about resolution 1325 (2000), including ministerial events, to renew commitments to “Women and peace and security”, and to identify ways to address remaining and new challenges in implementing resolution 1325 (2000) in the future,

1. Urges Member States, international and regional organisations to take further measures to improve women’s participation during all stages of peace processes, particularly in conflict resolution, post-conflict planning and peacebuilding, including by enhancing their engagement in political and economic decision-making at early stages of recovery processes, through inter alia promoting women’s leadership and capacity to engage in aid management and planning, supporting women’s organizations, and countering negative societal attitudes about women’s capacity to participate equally;
2. Reiterates its call for all parties in armed conflicts to respect fully international law applicable to the rights and protection of women and girls;
3. Strongly condemns all violations of applicable international law committed against women and girls in situations of armed conflicts and post conflict situations, demands all parties to conflicts to cease such acts with immediate effect, and emphasizes the responsibility of all States to put an end to impunity and to prosecute those responsible for all forms of violence committed against women and girls in armed conflicts, including rape and other sexual violence;
4. Calls upon the Secretary-General to develop a strategy, including through appropriate training, to increase the number of women appointed to pursue good offices on his behalf, particularly as Special Representatives and Special Envoys, and to take measures to increase women’s participation in United Nations political, peacebuilding and peacekeeping missions;
5. Requests the Secretary-General to ensure that all country reports to the Security Council provide information on the impact of situations of armed conflict on women and girls, their particular needs in post-conflict situations and obstacles to attaining those needs;
6. Requests the Secretary-General to ensure that relevant United Nations bodies, in cooperation with Member States and civil society, collect data on, analyze and systematically assess particular needs of women and girls in post-conflict situations, including, inter alia, information on their needs for physical security and participation in decision-making and post-conflict planning, in order to improve system-wide response to those needs;
7. Expresses its intention, when establishing and renewing the mandates of United Nations missions, to include provisions on the promotion of gender equality and the

empowerment of women in post-conflict situations, and requests the Secretary-General to continue, as appropriate, to appoint gender advisors and/or women-protection advisors to United Nations missions and asks them, in cooperation with United Nations Country Teams, to render technical assistance and improved coordination efforts to address recovery needs of women and girls in post-conflict situations;

8. Urges Member States to ensure gender mainstreaming in all post-conflict peacebuilding and recovery processes and sectors;

9. Urges Member States, United Nations bodies, donors and civil society to ensure that women's empowerment is taken into account during post-conflict needs assessments and planning, and factored into subsequent funding disbursements and programme activities, including through developing transparent analysis and tracking of funds allocated for addressing women's needs in the post-conflict phase;

10. Encourages Member States in post-conflict situations, in consultation with civil society, including women's organizations, to specify in detail women and girls' needs and priorities and design concrete strategies, in accordance with their legal systems, to address those needs and priorities, which cover inter alia support for greater physical security and better socio-economic conditions, through education, income generating activities, access to basic services, in particular health services, including sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights and mental health, gender-responsive law enforcement and access to justice, as well as enhancing capacity to engage in public decision-making at all levels;

11. Urges Member States, United Nations bodies and civil society, including non-governmental organizations, to take all feasible measures to ensure women and girls' equal access to education in post-conflict situations, given the vital role of education in the promotion of women's participation in post-conflict decision-making;

12. Calls upon all parties to armed conflicts to respect the civilian and humanitarian character of refugee camps and settlements, and ensure the protection of all civilians inhabiting such camps, in particular women and girls, from all forms of violence, including rape and other sexual violence, and to ensure full, unimpeded and secure humanitarian access to them;

13. Calls upon all those involved in the planning for disarmament, demobilization and reintegration to take into account particular needs of women and girls associated with armed forces and armed groups and their children, and provide for their full access to these programmes;

14. Encourages the Peacebuilding Commission and Peacebuilding Support Office to continue to ensure systematic attention to and mobilisation of resources for advancing gender equality and women's empowerment as an integral part of post-conflict peacebuilding, and to encourage the full participation of women in this process;

15. Request the Secretary-General, in his agenda for action to improve the United Nations' peacebuilding efforts, to take account of the need to improve the participation of women in political and economic decision-making from the earliest stages of the peacebuilding process;

16. Requests the Secretary-General to ensure full transparency, cooperation and coordination of efforts between the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Children and Armed Conflict and the Special Representative of the Secretary General on sexual violence and armed conflict whose appointment has been requested by its resolution 1888 (2009);

17. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the Security Council within 6 months, for consideration, a set of indicators for use at the global level to track implementation of its resolution 1325 (2000), which could serve as a common basis for reporting by relevant United Nations entities, other international and regional organizations, and Member States, on the implementation of resolution 1325 (2000) in 2010 and beyond;

18. Requests the Secretary-General, within the report requested in S/PRST/2007/40, to also include a review of progress in the implementation of its resolution 1325 (2000), an assessment of the processes by which the Security Council receives, analyses and takes action on information pertinent to resolution 1325 (2000), recommendations on further measures to improve coordination across the United Nations system, and with Member States and civil society to deliver implementation, and data on women's participation in United Nations missions;

19. Requests the Secretary-General to submit a report to the Security Council within 12 months on addressing women's participation and inclusion in peacebuilding and planning in the aftermath of conflict, taking into consideration the views of the Peacebuilding Commission and to include, inter alia:

- a. Analysis on the particular needs of women and girls in post-conflict situations,
- b. Challenges to women's participation in conflict resolution and peacebuilding and gender mainstreaming in all early post-conflict planning, financing and recovery processes,
- c. Measures to support national capacity in planning for and financing responses to the needs of women and girls in post-conflict situations,
- d. Recommendations for improving international and national responses to the needs of women and girls in post-conflict situations, including the development of effective financial and institutional arrangements to guarantee women's full and equal participation in the peacebuilding process,

20. Decides to remain actively seized of the matter."

Security Council Resolution 1960 (2010)

“The Security Council,

Reaffirming its commitment to the continuing and full implementation, in a mutually reinforcing manner, of resolutions 1325 (2000), 1612 (2005), 1674 (2006), 1820 (2008), 1882 (2009), 1888 (2009), 1889 (2009) and 1894 (2009), and all relevant statements of its President,

Welcoming the report of the Secretary-General of 24 November 2010 (S/2010/604), but remaining deeply concerned over the slow progress on the issue of sexual violence in situations of armed conflict in particular against women and children, and noting as documented in the Secretary-General’s report that sexual violence occurs in armed conflicts throughout the world,

Reiterating deep concern that despite its repeated condemnation of violence against women and children in situations of armed conflict, including sexual violence in situations of armed conflict, and despite its calls addressed to all parties to armed conflict for the cessation of such acts with immediate effect, such acts continue to occur, and in some situations have become systematic and widespread, reaching appalling levels of brutality,

Reiterating the necessity for all States and non-State parties to conflicts to comply fully with their obligations under applicable international law, including the prohibition on all forms of sexual violence,

Reiterating the need for civilian and military leaders, consistent with the principle of command responsibility, to demonstrate commitment and political will to prevent sexual violence and to combat impunity and enforce accountability, and that inaction can send a message that the incidence of sexual violence in conflicts is tolerated,

Recalling the responsibilities of States to end impunity and to prosecute those responsible for genocide, crimes against humanity, war crimes, and other egregious crimes perpetrated against civilians and, in this regard, noting with concern that only limited numbers of perpetrators of sexual violence have been brought to justice, while recognizing that in conflict and in post-conflict situations national justice systems may be significantly weakened,

Welcoming the progress made in rendering operational the team of experts to assist national authorities to strengthen the rule of law in accordance with resolution 1888 (2009); reaffirming the importance of deploying it rapidly to situations of particular concern with respect to sexual violence in armed conflict, working through the United Nations presence on the ground and with the consent of the host Government and in this regard, appreciating the voluntary contributions to support its work,

Recognizing that States bear the primary responsibility to respect and ensure

the human rights of all persons within their territory and subject to their jurisdiction as provided for by international law,

Reaffirming that parties to armed conflict bear the primary responsibility to take all feasible steps to ensure the protection of civilians,

Recalling that international humanitarian law affords general protection to women and children as part of the civilian population during armed conflicts and special protection due to the fact that they can be placed particularly at risk,

Reaffirming that ending impunity is essential if a society in conflict or recovering from conflict is to come to terms with past abuses committed against civilians affected by armed conflict and to prevent future such abuses, drawing attention to the full range of justice and reconciliation mechanisms to be considered, including national, international and 'mixed' criminal courts and tribunals and truth and reconciliation commissions, and noting that such mechanisms can promote not only individual responsibility for serious crimes, but also peace, truth, reconciliation and the rights of the victims,

Recalling the inclusion of a range of sexual violence offences in the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court and the statutes of the ad hoc international criminal tribunals,

Reaffirming the importance for States, with the support of the international community, to increase access to health care, psychosocial support, legal assistance, and socio-economic reintegration services for victims of sexual violence, in particular in rural areas, and taking into account the specific needs of persons with disabilities,

Welcoming the proposals, conclusions and recommendations included in the report of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations (A/64/19) on the need for adequate capabilities and clear and appropriate guidelines to enable peacekeeping missions to carry out all their mandated tasks, including prevention of and response to sexual violence; stressing the importance of ensuring engagement by senior mission leadership on protection of civilians, including the prevention of and response to instances of sexual violence in armed conflict, with a view to ensuring that all mission components and all levels of the chain of command are properly informed of and involved in the mission's mandate and their relevant responsibilities; welcoming progress made by the Secretary-General in developing operational tools for the implementation of protection of civilians mandates; and encouraging troop- and police-contributing countries to make full use of and provide feedback on these important materials,

Recognizing the efforts of the Secretary-General to address the underrepresentation of women in formal peace processes, the lack of mediators and ceasefire monitors with proper training in dealing with sexual violence, and the lack of women as Chief or Lead peace mediators in United Nations-sponsored peace talks; and encouraging further such efforts,

Welcoming the inclusion of women in peacekeeping missions in civil, military and

police functions, recognizing that their presence may encourage women from local communities to report acts of sexual violence,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General of 24 November 2010 (S/2010/604) and stressing that the present resolution does not seek to make any legal determination as to whether situations that are referred to in the Secretary-General's report are or are not armed conflicts within the context of the Geneva Conventions and the Additional Protocols thereto, nor does it prejudge the legal status of non-State parties involved in these situations,

1. Reaffirms that sexual violence, when used or commissioned as a tactic of war or as a part of a widespread or systematic attack against civilian populations, can significantly exacerbate and prolong situations of armed conflict and may impede the restoration of international peace and security; affirms in this regard that effective steps to prevent and respond to such acts of sexual violence can significantly contribute to the maintenance of international peace and security; and expresses its readiness, when considering situations on the agenda of the Council, to take, where necessary, appropriate steps to address widespread or systematic sexual violence in situations of armed conflict;
2. Reiterates its demand for the complete cessation with immediate effect by all parties to armed conflict of all acts of sexual violence;
3. Encourages the Secretary-General to include in his annual reports submitted pursuant to resolutions 1820 (2008) and 1888 (2009) detailed information on parties to armed conflict that are credibly suspected of committing or being responsible for acts of rape or other forms of sexual violence, and to list in an annex to these annual reports the parties that are credibly suspected of committing or being responsible for patterns of rape and other forms of sexual violence in situations of armed conflict on the Security Council agenda; expresses its intention to use this list as a basis for more focused United Nations engagement with those parties, including, as appropriate, measures in accordance with the procedures of the relevant sanctions committees;
4. Requests the Secretary-General, in accordance with the present resolution and taking into account its specificity, to apply the listing and de-listing criteria for parties listed in his annual report on sexual violence in armed conflict consistent with paragraphs 175, 176, 178, and 180 of his report A/64/742-S/2010/181;
5. Calls upon parties to armed conflict to make and implement specific and time-bound commitments to combat sexual violence, which should include, inter alia, issuance of clear orders through chains of command prohibiting sexual violence and the prohibition of sexual violence in Codes of Conduct, military field manuals, or equivalent; and further calls upon those parties to make and implement specific commitments on timely investigation of alleged abuses in order to hold perpetrators accountable;

6. Requests the Secretary-General to track and monitor implementation of these commitments by parties to armed conflict on the Security Council's agenda that engage in patterns of rape and other sexual violence, and regularly update the Council in relevant reports and briefings;
7. Reiterates its intention, when adopting or renewing targeted sanctions in situations of armed conflict, to consider including, where appropriate, designation criteria pertaining to acts of rape and other forms of sexual violence; and calls upon all peacekeeping and other relevant United Nations missions and United Nations entities, in particular the Working Group on Children and Armed Conflict, the Special Representative of the Secretary General for Children and Armed Conflict, and the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict, to share with relevant United Nations Security Council Sanctions Committees, including through relevant United Nations Security Council Sanction Committees' monitoring groups and groups of experts, all pertinent information about sexual violence;
8. Requests the Secretary-General to establish monitoring, analysis and reporting arrangements on conflict-related sexual violence, including rape in situations of armed conflict and post-conflict and other situations relevant to the implementation of resolution 1888 (2009), as appropriate, and taking into account the specificity of each country, that ensure a coherent and coordinated approach at the field-level, and encourages the Secretary-General to engage with United Nations actors, national institutions, civil society organizations, health-care service providers, and women's groups to enhance data collection and analysis of incidents, trends, and patterns of rape and other forms of sexual violence to assist the Council's consideration of appropriate actions, including targeted and graduated measures, while respecting fully the integrity and specificity of the monitoring and reporting mechanism implemented under Security Council resolutions 1612 (2005) and 1882 (2009) on children and armed conflict;
9. Requests the Secretary-General to continue to ensure full transparency, cooperation and coordination of efforts between the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict and the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict;
10. Welcomes the work of gender advisers; looks forward to the appointment of more women protection advisers to peacekeeping missions, in accordance with resolution 1888 (2009); notes their potential contribution in the framework of the monitoring, analysis, and reporting arrangements to be established pursuant to operative paragraph 8 of the present resolution;
11. Welcomes the elaboration by the Secretary-General of scenario-based training materials on combating sexual violence for peacekeepers and encourages Member States to use them as a reference for the preparation and deployment of United Nations peacekeeping operations;

12. Underlines that, in order to carry out their mandate, missions must communicate effectively with local communities; and encourages the Secretary-General to improve their capacity to do so;

13. Expresses its intention to give due consideration to sexual violence in mandate authorizations and renewals and to request the Secretary-General to include, as appropriate, gender expertise in technical assessment missions;

14. Encourages the entities comprising United Nations Action against Sexual Violence in Conflict, as well as other relevant parts of the United Nations system, to continue to support the work of the aforementioned Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict and to enhance cooperation and information-sharing among all relevant stakeholders in order to reinforce coordination and avoid overlap at the headquarters and country levels and improve system-wide response;

15. Encourages Member States to deploy greater numbers of female military and police personnel to United Nations peacekeeping operations, and to provide all military and police personnel with adequate training on sexual and gender-based violence, inter alia, to carry out their responsibilities;

16. Requests the Secretary-General to continue and strengthen efforts to implement the policy of zero tolerance on sexual exploitation and abuse by United Nations peacekeeping and humanitarian personnel, and further requests the Secretary-General to continue to provide and deploy guidance on addressing sexual violence for predeployment and inductive training of military and police personnel, and to assist missions in developing situation-specific procedures to address sexual violence at the field level and to ensure that technical support is provided to troop- and police-contributing countries in order to include guidance for military and police personnel on addressing sexual violence in predeployment and induction training;

17. Invites the Special Representative on Sexual Violence in Conflict to continue to provide briefings on sexual violence, in accordance with resolution 1888 (2009);

18. Requests that the Secretary-General continue to submit annual reports to the Council on the implementation of resolutions 1820 (2008) and 1888 (2009) and to submit his next report by December 2011 on the implementation of resolutions 1820 (2008) and 1888 (2009) and the present resolution to include, inter alia:

(a) a detailed coordination and strategy plan on the timely and ethical collection of information;

(b) information on progress made in the implementation of the monitoring, analysis, and reporting arrangements mentioned in paragraph 8;

(c) detailed information on parties to armed conflict that are credibly suspected of committing or being responsible for acts of rape or other forms of sexual violence,

and an annex with a list of parties that are credibly suspected of committing or being responsible for patterns of rape and other forms of sexual violence in situations of armed conflict on the Security Council agenda;

(d) updates on efforts by United Nations Mission focal points on sexual violence to work closely with Resident Coordinator/Humanitarian Coordinator (RC/HC), the United Nations Country Team, and, where appropriate, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict and the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict and/or the Team of Experts, to address sexual violence;

19. Decides to remain actively seized of the matter.”

Security Council Resolution 2106 (2013)

“Reaffirming its commitment to the continuing and full implementation, in a mutually reinforcing manner, of resolutions 1265 (1999), 1296 (2000), 1325 (2000), 1612 (2005), 1674 (2006), 1738 (2006), 1820 (2008), 1882 (2009), 1888 (2009), 1889 (2009), 1894 (2009), 1960 (2010), 1998 (2011) and 2068 (2012), and all relevant statements of its President,

Thanking the Secretary-General for the report of 12 March 2013 (S/2013/149) and taking note of the analysis and recommendations contained therein, but remaining deeply concerned over the slow implementation of important aspects of resolution 1960 (2010) to prevent sexual violence in armed conflict and post-conflict situations and noting as documented in the Secretary-General’s report that sexual violence occurs in such situations throughout the world,

Recognizing the Declaration on Preventing Sexual Violence in Conflict adopted by G8 foreign ministers in London on 11 April 2013, and the commitments it makes in this regard,

Recognizing that consistent and rigorous prosecution of sexual violence crimes as well as national ownership and responsibility in addressing the root causes of sexual violence in armed conflict are central to deterrence and prevention as is challenging the myths that sexual violence in armed conflict is a cultural phenomenon or an inevitable consequence of war or a lesser crime,

Affirming that women’s political, social and economic empowerment, gender equality and the enlistment of men and boys in the effort to combat all forms of violence against women are central to long-term efforts to prevent sexual violence in armed conflict and post-conflict situations; and emphasizing the importance of the full implementation of resolution 1325 (2000) while noting the ongoing work on a set of indicators for the implementation of resolution 1325 (2000) and subsequent resolutions on women and peace and security, and recognizing UN-Women’s efforts in this area,

Noting with concern that sexual violence in armed conflict and post-conflict situations disproportionately affects women and girls, as well as groups that are particularly vulnerable or may be specifically targeted, while also affecting men and boys and those secondarily traumatized as forced witnesses of sexual violence against family members; and emphasizing that acts of sexual violence in such situations not only severely impede the critical contributions of women to society, but also impede durable peace and security as well as sustainable development,

Recognizing that States bear the primary responsibility to respect and ensure the human rights of all persons within their territory and subject to their jurisdiction as provided for by international law; and reaffirming that parties to armed conflict bear the primary responsibility to ensure the protection of civilians,

Reaffirming its respect for the sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of all States in accordance with the Charter,

Recalling the inclusion of a range of sexual violence offenses in the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (ICC) and the statutes of the ad hoc international criminal tribunals,

Noting the provision in the Arms Trade Treaty that exporting States Parties shall take into account the risk of covered conventional arms or items being used to commit or facilitate serious acts of gender-based violence or serious acts of violence against women and children,

Further recalling that international humanitarian law prohibits rape and other forms of sexual violence,

Recalling the Human Rights Due Diligence Policy on United Nations Support to non-United Nations Security Forces as a tool to enhance compliance with international humanitarian, human rights and refugee law, including to address sexual violence in armed conflict and post-conflict situations,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General and stressing that the present resolution does not seek to make any legal determination as to whether situations that are referred to in the Secretary-General's report are or are not armed conflicts within the context of the Geneva Conventions and the Additional Protocols thereto, nor does it prejudge the legal status of non-State parties involved in these situations,

1. Affirms that sexual violence, when used or commissioned as a method or tactic of war or as a part of a widespread or systematic attack against civilian populations, can significantly exacerbate and prolong situations of armed conflict and may impede the restoration of international peace and security; emphasizes in this regard that effective steps to prevent and respond to such acts significantly contribute to the maintenance of international peace and security; and stresses women's participation as essential to any prevention and protection response;
2. Notes that sexual violence can constitute a crime against humanity or a constitutive act with respect to genocide; further recalls that rape and other forms of serious sexual violence in armed conflict are war crimes; calls upon Member States to comply with their relevant obligations to continue to fight impunity by investigating and prosecuting those subject to their jurisdiction who are responsible for such crimes; encourages Member States to include the full range of crimes of sexual violence in national penal legislation to enable prosecutions for such acts; recognizes that effective investigation and documentation of sexual violence in armed conflict is instrumental both in bringing perpetrators to justice and ensuring access to justice for survivors;
3. Notes that the fight against impunity for the most serious crimes of international

concern committed against women and girls has been strengthened through the work of the ICC, ad hoc and mixed tribunals, as well as specialized chambers in national tribunals; reiterates its intention to continue forcefully to fight impunity and uphold accountability with appropriate means;

4. Draws attention to the importance of a comprehensive approach to transitional justice in armed conflict and post-conflict situations, encompassing the full range of judicial and non-judicial measures, as appropriate;

5. Recognizes the need for more systematic monitoring of and attention to sexual violence in armed conflict and post-conflict situations and other women and peace and security commitments in its own work and, in this regard, expresses its intent to employ, as appropriate, all means at its disposal to ensure women's participation in all aspects of mediation, post-conflict recovery and peacebuilding and to address sexual violence in conflict, including, inter alia, in the establishment and review of peacekeeping and political mandates, public statements, country visits, fact-finding missions, international commissions of inquiry, consultations with regional bodies and in the work of relevant Security Council sanctions committees;

6. Recognizes the need for more timely, objective, accurate and reliable information as a basis for prevention and response and requests the Secretary General and relevant United Nations entities to accelerate the establishment and implementation of monitoring, analysis and reporting arrangements on conflict-related sexual violence, including rape in situations of armed conflict and post-conflict and other situations relevant to the implementation of resolution 1888 (2009), as appropriate, and taking into account the specificity of each country;

7. Calls for the further deployment of Women Protection Advisors (WPA) in accordance with resolution 1888 to facilitate the implementation of Security Council resolutions on women and peace and security and calls upon the Secretary General to ensure that the need for, and the number and roles of WPAs are systematically assessed during the planning and review of each United Nations peacekeeping and political mission, and to ensure that these experts are adequately trained and deployed in a timely manner; and recognizes the role of UN Action against Sexual Violence in Conflict in facilitating coordinated responses of relevant peacekeeping, humanitarian, human rights, political and security actors and emphasizes the need for enhanced coordination, information sharing, analysis, response planning and implementation across these sectors;

8. Recognizes the distinct role of Gender Advisors in ensuring that gender perspectives are mainstreamed in policies, planning and implementation by all mission elements; calls upon the Secretary General to continue to deploy Gender Advisors to the relevant United Nations peacekeeping and political missions as well as humanitarian operations and to ensure comprehensive gender training of all relevant peacekeeping and civilian personnel;

9. Acknowledges the efforts of United Nations entities in ensuring United Nations Commissions of Inquiry in armed conflict and post-conflict situations have, where necessary, sexual and gender-based crimes expertise to accurately document such crimes and encourages all Member States to support these efforts;

10. Reiterates its demand for the complete cessation with immediate effect by all parties to armed conflict of all acts of sexual violence and its call for these parties to make and implement specific time-bound commitments to combat sexual violence, which should include, inter alia, issuance of clear orders through chains of command prohibiting sexual violence and accountability for breaching these orders, the prohibition of sexual violence in Codes of Conduct, military and police field manuals or equivalent and to make and implement specific commitments on timely investigation of alleged abuses; and further calls upon all relevant parties to armed conflict to cooperate in the framework of such commitments, with appropriate United Nations mission personnel who monitor their implementation, and calls upon the parties to designate, as appropriate, a high-level representative responsible for ensuring implementation of such commitments;

11. Emphasizes the important role that can be played by women, civil society, including women's organizations, and formal and informal community leaders in exerting influence over parties to armed conflict with respect to addressing sexual violence;

12. Reiterates the importance of addressing sexual violence in armed conflict whenever relevant, in mediation efforts, ceasefires and peace agreements; requests the Secretary-General, Member States and regional organizations, where appropriate, to ensure that mediators and envoys, in situations where it is used as a method or tactic of war, or as part of a widespread or systematic attack against civilian populations, engage on sexual violence issues, including with women, civil society, including women's organizations and survivors of sexual violence, and ensure that such concerns are reflected in specific provisions of peace agreements, including those related to security arrangements and transitional justice mechanisms; urges the inclusion of sexual violence in the definition of acts prohibited by ceasefires and in provisions for ceasefire monitoring; stresses the need for the exclusion of sexual violence crimes from amnesty provisions in the context of conflict resolution processes;

13. Urges existing sanctions committees, where within the scope of the relevant criteria for designation, and consistent with resolution 1960 (2010) to apply targeted sanctions against those who perpetrate and direct sexual violence in conflict; and reiterates its intention, when adopting or renewing targeted sanctions in situations of armed conflict, to consider including, where appropriate, designation criteria pertaining to acts of rape and other forms of serious sexual violence;

14. Recognizes the role of United Nations peacekeeping contingents in preventing

sexual violence, and, in this respect, calls for all pre-deployment and in-mission training of troop- and police-contributing country contingents to include training on sexual and gender-based violence, which also takes into account the distinct needs of children; further encourages troop- and police-contributing countries to increase the number of women recruited and deployed in peace operations;

15. Requests the Secretary-General to continue and strengthen efforts to implement the policy of zero tolerance on sexual exploitation and abuse by United Nations personnel and urges concerned Member States to ensure full accountability, including prosecutions, in cases of such conduct involving their nationals;

16. Requests the Secretary-General and relevant United Nations entities to assist national authorities, with the effective participation of women, in addressing sexual violence concerns explicitly in:

(a) disarmament, demobilization and reintegration processes, including, inter alia, by establishing protection mechanisms for women and children in cantonment sites, as well as for civilians in close proximity of cantonment sites and in communities of return, and by offering trauma and reintegration support to women and children formerly associated with armed groups, as well as ex-combatants;

(b) security sector reform processes and arrangements, including through the provision of adequate training for security personnel, encouraging the inclusion of more women in the security sector and effective vetting processes in order to exclude from the security sector those who have perpetrated or are responsible for acts of sexual violence;

(c) justice sector reform initiatives, including through legislative and policy reforms that address sexual violence; training in sexual and gender-based violence of justice and security sector professionals and the inclusion of more women at professional levels in these sectors; and judicial proceedings that take into account the distinct needs and protection of witnesses as well as survivors of sexual violence in armed conflict and post-conflict situations, and their family members;

17. Recognizes that women who have been forcefully abducted into armed groups and armed forces, as well as children, are especially vulnerable to sexual violence in armed conflict and post-conflict situations and as such demands that parties to armed conflict immediately identify and release such persons from their ranks;

18. Encourages concerned Member States to draw upon the expertise of the United Nations Team of Experts established pursuant to resolution 1888 (2009) as appropriate to strengthen the rule of law and the capacity of civilian and military justice systems to address sexual violence in armed conflict and post-conflict situations as part of broader efforts to strengthen institutional safeguards against impunity;

19. Recognizing the importance of providing timely assistance to survivors of sexual

violence, urges United Nations entities and donors to provide non-discriminatory and comprehensive health services, including sexual and reproductive health, psychosocial, legal, and livelihood support and other multi-sectoral services for survivors of sexual violence, taking into account the specific needs of persons with disabilities; calls for support to national institutions and local civil society networks in increasing resources and strengthening capacities to provide the above mentioned services to survivors of sexual violence; encourages Member States and donors to support national and international programs that assist victims of sexual violence such as the Trust Fund for Victims established by the Rome Statute and its implementing partners; and requests the relevant United Nations entities to increase allocation of resources for the coordination of gender- based violence response and service provision;

20. Notes the link between sexual violence in armed conflict and post- conflict situations and HIV infection, and the disproportionate burden of HIV and AIDS on women and girls as a persistent obstacle and challenge to gender equality; and urges United Nations entities, Member States and donors to support the development and strengthening of capacities of national health systems and civil society networks in order to provide sustainable assistance to women and girls living with or affected by HIV and AIDS in armed conflict and post-conflict situations;

21. Underlines the important roles that civil society organizations, including women's organizations, and networks can play in enhancing community-level protection against sexual violence in armed conflict and post-conflict situations and supporting survivors in accessing justice and reparations;

22. Requests that the Secretary-General continue to submit annual reports to the Council on the implementation of women and peace and security resolutions and the present resolution, and to submit his next report by March 2014;

23. Decides to remain actively seized of the matter.”

Resolution 2122 (2013)

The Security Council,

Reaffirming its commitment to the continuing and full implementation, in a mutually reinforcing manner, of resolutions 1325 (2000), 1820 (2008), 1888 (2009), 1889 (2009), 1960 (2010) and 2106 (2013) and all relevant statements of its President,

Recalling the commitments of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and reaffirming the obligations of States Parties to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, the Optional Protocol thereto, and urging States that have not yet done so to consider ratifying or acceding to them,

Bearing in mind the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the primary responsibility of the Security Council under the Charter for the maintenance of international peace and security, and noting the focus of this resolution is, in this regard, the implementation of the women, peace and security agenda,

Reaffirming that women's and girls' empowerment and gender equality are critical to efforts to maintain international peace and security, and emphasizing that persisting barriers to full implementation of resolution 1325 (2000) will only be dismantled through dedicated commitment to women's empowerment, participation, and human rights, and through concerted leadership, consistent information and action, and support, to build women's engagement in all levels of decision-making,

Taking note with appreciation the report of the Secretary-General of 4 September 2013 and the progress and emergence of good practice across several areas, including in prevention and protection, and the significant heightening of policy and operational focus on the monitoring, prevention and prosecution of violence against women in armed conflict and post-conflict situations, but remaining deeply concerned about persistent implementation deficits in the women, peace and security agenda, including in: protection from human rights abuses and violations; opportunities for women to exercise leadership; resources provided to address their needs and which will help them exercise their rights; and the capacities and commitment of all actors involved in the implementation of resolution 1325 (2000) and subsequent resolutions to advance women's participation and protection,

Expressing concern at women's exacerbated vulnerability in armed conflict and post-conflict situations particularly in relation to forced displacement, as a result of unequal citizenship rights, gender biased application of asylum laws, and obstacles to registering and accessing identity documents which occur in many situations,

Expressing deep concern at the full range of threats and human rights violations and abuses experienced by women in armed conflict and post-conflict situations, recognizing that those women and girls who are particularly vulnerable or disadvantaged may be

specifically targeted or at increased risk of violence, and recognizing in this regard that more must be done to ensure that transitional justice measures address the full range of violations and abuses of women's human rights, and the differentiated impacts on women and girls of these violations and abuses as well as forced displacement, enforced disappearances, and destruction of civilian infrastructure,

Recognizing the importance of Member States and United Nations entities seeking to ensure humanitarian aid and funding includes provision for the full range of medical, legal, psychosocial and livelihood services to women affected by armed conflict and post-conflict situations, and noting the need for access to the full range of sexual and reproductive health services, including regarding pregnancies resulting from rape, without discrimination,

Reiterating its strong condemnation of all violations of international law committed against and/or directly affecting civilians, including women and girls in armed conflict and post-conflict situations, including those involving rape and other forms of sexual and gender-based violence, killing and maiming, obstructions to humanitarian aid, and mass forced displacement,

Recognizing that States bear the primary responsibility to respect and ensure the human rights of all persons within their territory and subject to their jurisdiction as provided for by international law, and reaffirming that parties to armed conflict bear the primary responsibility to ensure the protection of civilians,

Reaffirming that sustainable peace requires an integrated approach based on coherence between political, security, development, human rights, including gender equality, and rule of law and justice activities, and in this regard emphasizing the importance of the rule of law as one of the key elements of conflict prevention, peacekeeping, conflict resolution and peacebuilding,

Recognizing the need for more systematic attention to the implementation of women, peace and security commitments in its own work, particularly to ensure the enhancement of women's engagement in conflict prevention, resolution and peacebuilding, and noting in this regard the need for timely and systematic reporting on women, peace and security,

Taking note of the critical contributions of civil society, including women's organizations to conflict prevention, resolution and peacebuilding and in this regard the importance of sustained consultation and dialogue between women and national and international decision makers,

Recognizing the need to address the gaps and strengthen links between the United Nations peace and security in the field, human rights and development work as a means to address root causes of armed conflict and threats to the security of women and girls in the pursuit of international peace and security,

Recognizing that the economic empowerment of women greatly contributes to the

stabilization of societies emerging from armed conflict, and welcoming the Peacebuilding Commission's declaration on women's economic empowerment for peacebuilding of 26 September 2013 (PBC/7/OC/L.1),

Acknowledging the adoption of the Arms Trade Treaty and noting the provisions in Article 7(4) of the Treaty that exporting States Parties shall take into account the risk of covered conventional arms or items being used to commit or facilitate serious acts of gender-based violence or serious acts of violence against women and children,

Looking forward to the important contribution that implementation of the Arms Trade Treaty can make to reducing violence perpetrated against women and girls in armed conflict and post-conflict situations,

Welcoming the efforts of Member States, and recognizing the efforts of regional and subregional organizations, in implementing resolution 1325 (2000) and subsequent women, peace and security resolutions at the regional, national and local levels, including the development of action plans and implementation frameworks, and encouraging Member States to continue to pursue such implementation, including through strengthened monitoring, evaluation and coordination,

1. Recognizes the need for consistent implementation of resolution 1325 (2000) in its own work and intends to focus more attention on women's leadership and participation in conflict resolution and peacebuilding, including by monitoring progress in implementation, and addressing challenges linked to the lack and quality of information and analysis on the impact of armed conflict on women and girls, the role of women in peacebuilding and the gender dimensions of peace processes and conflict resolution;

2. Recognizes the need for timely information and analysis on the impact of armed conflict on women and girls, the role of women in peacebuilding and the gender dimensions of peace processes and conflict resolution for situations on the Council's agenda, and therefore:

- (a) Welcomes more regular briefings by the Under-Secretary-General/Executive Director of UN-Women and the Under-Secretary-General/Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict on issues of relevance to women, peace and security;

- (b) Requests DPKO, DPA and relevant senior officials, as part of their regular briefings, to update the Security Council on issues relevant to women, peace and security, including implementation;

- (c) Requests the Secretary-General and his Special Envoys and Special Representatives to United Nations missions, as part of their regular briefings, to update the Council on progress in inviting women to participate, including through consultations with civil society, including women's organizations, in discussions pertinent to the prevention and resolution of conflict, the maintenance of peace and

security and post-conflict peacebuilding;

(d) Requests DPKO and DPA to systematically include information and related recommendations on issues of relevance to women, peace and security, in their reports to the Council;

(e) Invites all United Nations-established Commissions of Inquiry investigating situations on the Council's agenda to include in their briefings information on the differentiated impacts of armed conflict on women and girls, especially emphasizing recommendations to advance accountability, justice and protection for victims, during armed conflict and in post-conflict and transitional contexts;

3. Expresses its intention to increase its attention to women, peace and security issues in all relevant thematic areas of work on its agenda, including in particular Protection of civilians in armed conflict, Post-conflict peacebuilding, The promotion and strengthening of the rule of law in the maintenance of international peace and security, Peace and Security in Africa, Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts, and Maintenance of international peace and security;

4. Reiterates its intention when establishing and renewing the mandates of United Nations missions, to include provisions on the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women in conflict and post-conflict situations, including through the appointment of gender advisers as appropriate, and further expresses its intention to include provisions to facilitate women's full participation and protection in: election preparation and political processes, disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programs, security sector and judicial reforms, and wider post-conflict reconstruction processes where these are mandated tasks within the mission;

5. Requests United Nations peacekeeping mission leadership to assess the human rights violations and abuses of women in armed conflict and post-conflict situations, and requests peacekeeping missions, in keeping with their mandates, to address the security threats and protection challenges faced by women and girls in armed conflict and post-conflict settings;

6. Recognizes the importance of interactions of civil society, including women's organizations, with members of the Council at headquarters and during Council field missions and commits to ensuring that its periodic field visits to conflict areas include interactive meetings with local women and women's organizations in the field;

7. Recognizes the continuing need to increase women's participation and the consideration of gender-related issues in all discussions pertinent to the prevention and resolution of armed conflict, the maintenance of peace and security, and post-conflict peacebuilding, and in this regard, the Council:

(a) Requests the Secretary-General's Special Envoys and Special Representatives to United Nations missions, from early on in their deployment, to regularly consult with women's organizations and women leaders, including socially and/or

economically excluded groups of women;

(b) Encourages concerned Member States to develop dedicated funding mechanisms to support the work and enhance capacities of organizations that support women's leadership development and full participation in all levels of decision-making, regarding the implementation of resolution 1325 (2000), *inter alia* through increasing contributions to local civil society;

(c) Requests the Secretary-General to strengthen the knowledge of negotiating delegations to peace talks, and members of mediation support teams, on the gender dimensions of peacebuilding, by making gender expertise and gender experts available to all United Nations mediation teams; further requests the Secretary-General to support the appointments of women at senior levels as United Nations mediators and within the composition of United Nations mediation teams; and calls on all parties to such peace talks to facilitate the equal and full participation of women at decision-making levels;

8. Stresses the importance of those Member States conducting post-conflict electoral processes and constitutional reform continuing their efforts, with support from United Nations entities, to ensure women's full and equal participation in all phases of electoral processes, noting that specific attention must be paid to women's safety prior to, and during, elections;

9. Encourages troop- and police-contributing countries to increase the percentage of women military and police in deployments to United Nations peacekeeping operations, and further encourages troop- and police-contributing countries to provide all military and police personnel with adequate training to carry out their responsibilities, and relevant United Nations entities to make available appropriate guidance or training modules, including in particular the United Nations predeployment scenario-based training on prevention of sexual and gender-based violence;

10. Stresses the need for continued efforts to address obstacles in women's access to justice in conflict and post-conflict settings, including through gender-responsive legal, judicial and security sector reform and other mechanisms;

11. Urges all parties concerned, including Member States, United Nations entities and financial institutions, to support the development and strengthening of the capacities of national institutions, in particular of judicial and health systems, and of local civil society networks in order to provide sustainable assistance to women and girls affected by armed conflict and post-conflict situations;

12. Calls upon Member States to comply with their relevant obligations to end to impunity and to thoroughly investigate and prosecute persons responsible for war crimes, genocide, crimes against humanity or other serious violations of international humanitarian law; and further notes that the fight against impunity for

the most serious crimes of international concern against women and girls has been strengthened through the work of the International Criminal Court, ad hoc and mixed tribunals, as well as specialized chambers in national tribunals;

13. Recalls in this regard applicable provisions of international law on the right to reparations for violations of individual rights;

14. Urges Member States and United Nations entities, to ensure women's full and meaningful participation in efforts to combat and eradicate the illicit transfer and misuse of small arms and light weapons;

15. Reiterates its intention to convene a High-level Review in 2015 to assess progress at the global, regional and national levels in implementing resolution 1325 (2000), renew commitments, and address obstacles and constraints that have emerged in the implementation of resolution 1325 (2000); further recognizes with concern that without a significant implementation shift, women and women's perspectives will continue to be underrepresented in conflict prevention, resolution, protection and peacebuilding for the foreseeable future, and as such encourages those Member States, regional organizations as appropriate, and United Nations entities who have developed frameworks and plans to support the implementation of resolution 1325 (2000) to start reviewing existing implementation plans and targets, and for Member States to assess and accelerate progress and prepare to formulate new targets, in time for the 2015 High-level Review;

16. Invites the Secretary-General, in preparation for the High-level Review to commission a global study on the implementation of resolution 1325 (2000), highlighting good practice examples, implementation gaps and challenges, as well as emerging trends and priorities for action, and further invites the Secretary-General to submit, within his annual report to the Security Council in 2015, on the results of this study and to make this available to all Member States of the United Nations;

17. Expresses its intention to make the implementation of the Council's women, peace and security mandate a focus of one of its periodic field visits in advance of the 2015 High-level Review;

18. Requests that the Secretary-General continue to submit annual reports to the Council providing a progress update on the implementation of resolution 1325 (2000) and to submit his next report by October 2014 and to include in that report an update of progress across all areas of the women, peace and security agenda, highlighting gaps and challenges;

19. Decides to remain actively seized of the matter."

Resolution 2242 (2015)

“The Security Council,

“Reaffirming its commitment to the continuing and full implementation, in a mutually reinforcing manner, of resolutions 1325 (2000), 1820 (2008), 1888 (2009), 1889 (2009), 1960 (2010), 2106 (2013) and 2122 (2013), and all relevant statements of its President,

“Bearing in mind the Purposes and Principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the primary responsibility of the Security Council under the Charter for the maintenance of international peace and security,

“Affirming the primary role of Member States to implement fully the relevant provisions of Security Council resolutions on women, peace and security, and the important complementary role of United Nations entities and regional organizations,

“Recalling the commitments of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and their twentieth anniversary, welcoming the Global Leaders Meeting on Gender Equality and Empowerment held on 27 September 2015 and commending the concrete national commitments made by national leaders in connection to this meeting,

“Reaffirming the obligations of States Parties to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Optional Protocol thereto and urging States that have not yet done so to consider ratifying or acceding to it, further noting General Recommendation 30 of the Committee for the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women on Women and Conflict Prevention and Post-Conflict Situations,

“Welcoming the report of the Secretary-General of 17 September 2015 (S/2015/716) submitting the results of the Global Study on the implementation of resolution 1325 (2000), recognizing with appreciation all the work undertaken for the Global Study and encouraging close examination of its recommendations,

“Noting the substantial link between women’s meaningful involvement in efforts to prevent, resolve and rebuild from conflict and those efforts’ effectiveness and long-term sustainability, as well as the need for greater resourcing, accountability, political will and attitudinal change,

“Taking note of the Report of the Secretary-General on The Future of United Nations peace operations: implementation of the recommendations of the High-Level Independent Panel on Peace Operations (S/2015/682) and the Report of the Advisory Group of Experts for the Review of the United Nations Peacebuilding Architecture (S/2015/490), and welcoming the recommendations contained therein relating to Women, Peace and Security, and further urging all actors to consider their implementation,

“Reaffirming the obligations of States and all parties to armed conflict to comply with international humanitarian law and international human rights law, as applicable, and the need to end all violations of international humanitarian law and all violations and abuses of human rights,

“Reaffirming that sexual violence, when used or commissioned as a method or tactic of war or as a part of a widespread or systematic attack against civilian populations, can significantly exacerbate and prolong situations of armed conflict and may impede the restoration of international peace and security,

“Welcoming the emphasis placed on achieving gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls in the recent adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, reaffirming that women’s and girls’ empowerment and gender equality are critical to conflict prevention and broader efforts to maintain international peace and security, noting in this regard the emphasis of the Report of the Independent High-Level Panel on Peace Operations (S/2015/446), the Report of the Advisory Group of Experts for the Review of the United Nations Peacebuilding Architecture (S/2015/490), and the Global Study on the need, inter alia, to invest more in conflict prevention and women’s empowerment, and further emphasizing that persisting barriers to the full implementation of resolution 1325 (2000) will only be dismantled through dedicated commitment to women’s participation and human rights, and through concerted leadership, consistent information and action, and support to build women’s engagement in all levels of decision-making,

“Reiterating the important engagement by men and boys as partners in promoting women’s participation in the prevention and resolution of armed conflict, peacebuilding and post-conflict situations,

“Noting the changing global context of peace and security, in particular relating to rising violent extremism, which can be conducive to terrorism, the increased numbers of refugees and internally displaced persons, the impacts of climate change and the global nature of health pandemics, and in this regard reiterating its intention to increase attention to women, peace and security as a cross-cutting subject in all relevant thematic areas of work on its agenda, including threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts,

“Recognizing the differential impact on the human rights of women and girls of terrorism and violent extremism, including in the context of their health, education, and participation in public life, and that they are often directly targeted by terrorist groups, and expressing deep concern that acts of sexual and gender-based violence are known to be part of the strategic objectives and ideology of certain terrorist groups, used as a tactic of terrorism and an instrument to increase their power through supporting financing, recruitment and the destruction of communities, as described in the Secretary-General’s Report on Sexual Violence in Conflict of 23 March 2015 (S/2015/203), and further noting the Global Counter-Terrorism Forum’s good practices on Women and

Countering Violent Extremism,

“Recognizing the significance of the 15-year anniversary of resolution 1325 (2000), the progress made, as well as the opportunity and need for far greater implementation of the women, peace and security agenda, remaining deeply concerned by the frequent underrepresentation of women in many formal processes and bodies related to the maintenance of international peace and security, the relatively low number of women in senior positions in political, peace and security-related national, regional and international institutions, the lack of adequate gender-sensitive humanitarian responses and support for women’s leadership roles in these settings, insufficient financing for women, peace and security, and the resulting detrimental impact on the maintenance of international peace and security,

“Recognizing the important contribution of civil society, including women’s organizations, during the last 15 years in the implementation of resolution 1325 (2000),

“Recognizing the new Global Acceleration Instrument on women’s engagement in peace and security and humanitarian affairs, in addition to existing complementary mechanisms, as one avenue to attract resources, coordinate responses and accelerate implementation,

“1. Urges Member States, in light of the High-Level Review, to assess strategies and resourcing in the implementation of the women, peace and security agenda, reiterates its call for Member States to ensure increased representation of women at all decision-making levels in national, regional and international institutions and mechanisms for the prevention and resolution of conflict, encourages those supporting peace processes to facilitate women’s meaningful inclusion in negotiating parties’ delegations to peace talks, calls upon donor countries to provide financial and technical assistance to women involved in peace processes, including training in mediation, advocacy and technical areas of negotiation, as well as providing support and training to mediators and technical teams on the impact of women’s participation and strategies for women’s effective inclusion, further encourages the meaningful participation of civil society organizations at international and regional peace and security meetings, as appropriate, including donor conferences to help ensure gender considerations are integrated in the development, prioritization, coordination and implementation of policies and programmes, and encourages the hosts of such meetings to give due consideration to facilitating a cross representation of civil society participants;

“2. Welcomes the efforts of Member States to implement resolution 1325 (2000), including the development of national action plans, further welcomes the increase in national action plans in recent years, and calls upon Member States to further integrate the women, peace and security agenda into their strategic plans such as national actions plans and other planning frameworks, with sufficient resources, including implementation of relevant obligations under international humanitarian

law and international human rights law, through broad consultation, including with civil society, in particular women's organizations, calls upon countries with national action plans to provide an update on the progress made in their implementation and review during the annual Security Council open debates on women, peace and security, further welcomes the efforts of regional organizations to implement resolution 1325 (2000), including through the adoption of regional frameworks, and encourages them to pursue further implementation;

“3. Encourages Member States to increase their funding on women, peace and security, including through more aid in conflict and post-conflict situations for programmes that further gender equality and women's empowerment, as well as through support to civil society, and to support countries in armed conflict and post-conflict situations, including through capacity-building, in their implementation of women, peace and security resolutions, calls for increased international development cooperation related to women's empowerment and gender equality and invites aid providers to track the gender focus of aid contributions;

“4. Urges the Secretary-General and relevant United Nations entities, including but not limited to the Department for Peacekeeping Operations, the Department for Political Affairs and the Peacebuilding Support Office to redouble their efforts to integrate women's needs and gender perspectives into their work, including in all policy and planning processes and assessment missions, and in relation to requests made in resolution 2122 (2013), and to address deficits in accountability including through the addition by the Secretary-General of gender targets as an indicator of individual performance in all compacts with senior managers at United Nations Headquarters and in the field, including Special Envoys, Special Representatives of the Secretary-General and Resident and Humanitarian Coordinators, to be used for monitoring and to inform decision-making by the Secretary-General, including for recruiting for future posts, and further encourages closer working relationships within the United Nations among all those responsible for implementing the women, peace and security agenda, including the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), taking into account their role on women, peace and security coordination and accountability, and the Secretary-General's Special Representative on Sexual Violence in Conflict;

“5. Recognizes the ongoing need for greater integration of resolution 1325 (2000) in its own work in alignment with resolution 2122 (2013), including the need to address challenges linked to the provision of specific information and recommendations on the gender dimensions of situations on the Council's agenda, to inform and help strengthen the Council's decisions, and therefore, in addition to elements set out in resolution 2122 (2013), and in accordance with established practice and procedure:

(a) Expresses its intention to convene meetings of relevant Security Council experts as part of an Informal Experts Group on Women, Peace and Security to

facilitate a more systematic approach to Women, Peace and Security within its own work and enable greater oversight and coordination of implementation efforts;

(b) Decides to integrate women, peace and security concerns across all country specific situations on the Security Council's agenda, taking into account the specific context of each country, expresses its intention to dedicate periodic Security Council consultations on country situations, as necessary, to the topic of Women, Peace and Security implementation, progress and challenges, and reiterates its intention to ensure Security Council missions take into account gender considerations and the rights of women, including through consultation with local and international women's groups;

(c) Expresses its intention to invite civil society, including women's organizations, to brief the Council in country-specific considerations and relevant thematic areas, as well as the Under-Secretary-General/Executive Director of UN-Women and the Under-Secretary-General/Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict to brief more regularly on country situations and relevant thematic areas of work on its agenda including on matters of urgency for women and girls in conflict and crisis;

"6. Expresses its intention, when adopting or renewing targeted sanctions in situations of armed conflict, to consider designating, as appropriate, those actors, including those in terrorist groups, engaged in violations of international humanitarian law and violations and abuses of human rights, including sexual and gender-based violence, forced disappearances and forced displacement, and commits to ensuring that the relevant expert groups for sanctions committees have the necessary gender expertise;

"7. Urges the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and Department of Political Affairs to ensure the necessary gender analysis and technical gender expertise is included throughout all stages of mission planning, mandate development, implementation, review and mission drawdown, ensuring the needs and participation of women are integrated in all sequenced stages of mission mandates, welcomes the commitment of the Secretary-General that Senior Gender Advisers will be located in the offices of his Special Representatives, calls for senior gender advisers and other gender officer posts to be budgeted for and speedily recruited where appointed in special political missions and multidimensional peacekeeping operations, and encourages greater cooperation between the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, Department of Political Affairs and UN-Women to enable more gender-responsive United Nations peacekeeping operations and special political missions, including through providing field-based gender advisers and other missions' sectors with full access to the policy, substantive and technical support of these entities on the implementation of resolution 1325 (2000) and successive resolutions, making full use of respective comparative advantages;

“8. Welcomes the Secretary-General’s commitment to prioritize the appointment of more women in senior United Nations leadership positions, bearing in mind a cross-geographical representation and in accordance with existing relevant rules and regulations governing administrative and budgetary issues, and encourages him to review the obstacles preventing women’s recruitment and professional advancement, further welcomes efforts to incentivize greater numbers of women in militaries and police deployed to United Nations peacekeeping operations, and calls upon the Secretary-General to initiate, in collaboration with Member States, a revised strategy, within existing resources, to double the numbers of women in military and police contingents of UN peacekeeping operations over the next five years;

“9. Expresses deep concern over continuing allegations of sexual exploitation and abuse by United Nations peacekeepers and non-United Nations forces, including military, civilian and police personnel, urges police- and troop-contributing countries to provide robust predeployment training on sexual exploitation and abuse and vetting of their peacekeeping personnel, to conduct swift and thorough investigations of their uniformed personnel, and if appropriate, to prosecute, and to inform the United Nations in a timely manner of the status and outcome of investigations, calls upon the United Nations to cooperate as appropriate and in a timely manner with national authorities, including courts responsible for investigating such allegations, when requested for that purpose, and requests United Nations troop- and police-contributing country meetings to address sexual exploitation and abuse whenever relevant and the United Nations Military Staff Committee to discuss these issues as part of its regular programme;

“10. Welcomes the Secretary-General’s continued efforts at implementing his policy of zero tolerance of misconduct, in particular the wide-ranging proposals on prevention, enforcement and remedial action which promote greater accountability, including his commitment to bring to public light misconduct by United Nations personnel, as well as his proposal to keep the Security Council informed of developments regarding implementation of his zero-tolerance policy on sexual exploitation and abuse, and his decision that all countries repeatedly listed in the annexes of his reports on Children and Armed Conflict and Sexual Violence in Conflict are prohibited from participating in United Nations peacekeeping operations, and urges those troop- and police-contributing countries that are currently listed to cease such violations and implement actions plans expeditiously, thereby avoiding suspension from peace operations, further requests the Secretary-General to include a section on conduct and discipline including, whenever relevant, adherence to his zero-tolerance policy on sexual exploitation and abuse, in all his reports on country-specific situations to the Security Council;

“11. Calls for the greater integration by Member States and the United Nations of their agendas on women, peace and security, counter-terrorism and countering-

violent extremism which can be conducive to terrorism, requests the Counter-Terrorism Committee and the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate to integrate gender as a cross-cutting issue throughout the activities within their respective mandates, including within country-specific assessments and reports, recommendations made to Member States, facilitating technical assistance to Member States and briefings to the Council, encourages the Counter-Terrorism Committee and Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate to hold further consultations with women and women's organizations to help inform their work, and further encourages the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force to take the same approach in activities within its mandate;

“12. Urges Member States and requests relevant United Nations entities, including the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate, within its existing mandate, and in collaboration with UN-Women, to conduct and gather gender-sensitive research and data collection on the drivers of radicalization for women, and the impacts of counter-terrorism strategies on women's human rights and women's organizations, in order to develop targeted and evidence-based policy and programming responses, and to ensure United Nations monitoring and assessment mechanisms and processes mandated to prevent and respond to violent extremism, which can be conducive to terrorism, have the necessary gender expertise to fulfil their mandates, including relevant sanctions experts groups and bodies established to conduct fact finding and criminal investigations;

“13. Urges Member States and the United Nations system to ensure the participation and leadership of women and women's organizations in developing strategies to counter terrorism and violent extremism which can be conducive to terrorism, including through countering incitement to commit terrorist acts, creating counter narratives and other appropriate interventions, and building their capacity to do so effectively, and further to address, including by the empowerment of women, youth, religious and cultural leaders, the conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism and violent extremism which can be conducive to terrorism, consistent with the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy (A/RES/60/288), welcomes the increasing focus on inclusive upstream prevention efforts and encourages the forthcoming Secretary-General's Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism to integrate women's participation, leadership and empowerment as core to the United Nations strategy and responses, calls for adequate financing in this regard and for an increased amount, within the funding of the UN for counter-terrorism and countering violent extremism which can be conducive to terrorism, to be committed to projects which address gender dimensions including women's empowerment;

“14. Urges Member States to strengthen access to justice for women in conflict and post-conflict situations, including through the prompt investigation, prosecution and punishment of perpetrators of sexual and gender based violence, as well as reparation for victims as appropriate, notes that the fight against impunity for the

most serious crimes of international concern committed against women and girls has been strengthened through the work of the International Criminal Court, ad hoc and mixed tribunals, as well as specialized chambers in national tribunals and reiterates its intention to continue forcefully to fight impunity and uphold accountability with appropriate means;

“15. Encourages empowering women, including through capacity-building efforts, as appropriate, to participate in the design and implementation of efforts related to the prevention, combating and eradication of the illicit transfer, and the destabilizing accumulation and misuse of small arms and light weapons, and calls upon Member States, United Nations entities, intergovernmental, regional and subregional organizations to take into consideration the specific impact of conflict and post-conflict environments on women’s and girls’ security, mobility, education, economic activity and opportunities, to mitigate the risk of women from becoming active players in the illicit transfer of small arms and light weapons;

“16. Calls upon Member States, the United Nations, and other relevant actors to ensure due consideration is given to the Women, Peace and Security agenda in the process and outcome of the World Humanitarian Summit in Istanbul, Turkey, in 2016, further recognizes the importance of integrating gender considerations across humanitarian programming by seeking to ensure the provision of access to protection and the full range of medical, legal and psychosocial and livelihood services, without discrimination, and through ensuring women and women’s groups can participate meaningfully and are supported to be leaders in humanitarian action, and urges the Secretary-General to strengthen leadership and political will at all levels on this issue and ensure accountability to existing humanitarian frameworks related to women’s empowerment and gender equality which contribute to the implementation of the women, peace and security agenda;

“17. Invites the Secretary-General in his next annual report on the implementation of resolution 1325 (2000) to submit information on progress made to follow up on the High-Level Review including the recommendations highlighted in the Secretary-General’s report on the Global Study and new commitments made as part of the High-Level Review, as well as appropriate monitoring and evaluation arrangements for the UN system, and to make this available to all Member States;

“18. Decides to remain actively seized of the matter.”

Resolution 2467 (2019)

The Security Council,

Reaffirming its commitment to the continuing and full implementation of resolutions 1325 (2000), 1820 (2008), 1888 (2009), 1889 (2009), 1960 (2010), 2106

(2013), 2122 (2013), and 2242 (2015) on women, peace and security, and relevant statements of its Presidents, and further emphasizing that persistent barriers to their implementation will only be dismantled through dedicated commitment to women's participation and protection and promotion of human rights, and consistent support to building women's engagement at all levels of decision-making,

Recalling the commitments of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and reaffirming the obligations of State Parties to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women, the Optional Protocol thereto, urging states that have not yet done so to consider ratifying or acceding to them,

Further recalling the obligations applicable to parties to armed conflict under the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and the Additional Protocols thereto of 1977,

Noting General Recommendation 30 of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women on Women in Conflict Prevention, Conflict and Post - Conflict Situations,

Bearing in mind the Purposes and Principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the primary responsibility of the Security Council under the Charter for the maintenance of international peace and security,

Recognizing that States bear the primary responsibility to respect and ensure the human rights of all persons within their territory and subject to their jurisdiction as provided for by international law, and reaffirming that parties to armed conflict bear the primary responsibility to ensure the protection of civilians,

Affirming the primary role of Member States to implement fully the relevant provisions of Security Council resolutions on women, peace and security, and the important complementary role of United Nations entities and regional organizations,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General of 29 March 2019 (S/2019/280), and remaining deeply concerned over the slow progress in addressing and eliminating sexual violence in situations of armed conflict in particular against women and children, and noting as documented in the Secretary-General's report that sexual violence occurs during and after armed conflicts throughout the world,

Recognizing the significance of the twenty-year anniversary of resolution 1325 (2000), the progress made as well as the opportunity and need for far greater implementation of the women, peace and security agenda, remaining deeply concerned

by the frequent under-representation of women in many formal processes and bodies related to the maintenance of international peace and security, the relatively low number of women in senior positions in political, peace and security - related national, regional and international institutions, the lack of adequate gender- sensitive humanitarian responses and support for women's leadership roles in these settings, insufficient financing for women, peace and security, and the resulting detrimental impact on the maintenance of international peace and security,

Expressing deep concern at the full range of threats and human rights violations and abuses experienced by women and girls in armed conflict and post-conflict situations, and recognising that women and girls are particularly at risk and are often specifically targeted and at an increased risk of violence in conflict and post-conflict situations,

Emphasizing that advancing gender equality and women's political, social, and economic empowerment is critical to the prevention of and response to sexual violence in conflict and post-conflict situations, and that the safety and empowerment of women and girls is important for their meaningful participation in peace processes, preventing conflicts and rebuilding societies, and that therefore women's protection and participation are inextricably linked and mutually-reinforcing as reflected by all previous resolutions on women, peace and security,

Recognizing that the disproportionate impact of sexual violence in armed conflict and post-conflict situations on women and girls is exacerbated by discrimination against women and girls and by the under-representation of women in decision-making and leadership roles, the impact of discriminatory laws, the gender- biased enforcement and application of existing laws, harmful social norms and practices, structural inequalities, and discriminatory views on women or gender roles in society, and lack of availability of services for survivors, and further affirming the importance of promoting gender equality by addressing these and other root causes of sexual violence against all women and girls as part of conflict prevention, conflict resolution and peacebuilding,

Recognizing that sexual violence in conflict occurs on a continuum of interrelated and recurring forms of violence against women and girls, and recognizing that conflict also exacerbates the frequency and brutality of other forms of gender- based violence,

Recognizing national ownership and responsibility in addressing the root causes of sexual violence in armed conflict and post-conflict situations, and further recognizing that the consistent and rigorous prosecution of sexual violence crimes is central to deterrence and prevention, as is challenging the perceptions that sexual violence in armed conflict is a cultural phenomenon or an inevitable consequence of war or a lesser crime,

Reiterating the need for civilian and military leaders, to demonstrate commitment and political will to prevent sexual violence and enforce accountability, and that inaction and impunity for sexual violence crimes in conflict and post-conflict situation can send a message that the incidence of such crimes is tolerated,

Recalling the responsibilities of States to end impunity and to prosecute those responsible for crimes of genocide, crimes against humanity, and war crimes, perpetrated against civilians and, in this regard, noting with concern that only very limited numbers of perpetrators of sexual violence have been brought to justice, while recognizing that in conflict and in post-conflict situations national justice systems may be significantly weakened,

Noting United Nations commissions of inquiry and United Nations fact-finding missions, as appropriate and where relevant, as mechanisms to verify and investigate allegations of violations and abuses of international human rights law and violations of international humanitarian law, and in accordance with their respective mandates to make recommendations to advance accountability and justice and protection for survivors, and, in accordance with their respective mandates and within existing resources, to partner with Funds and Agencies in the provision of specialised multi-sectoral services,

Recognizing the need for a survivor-centered approach in preventing and responding to sexual violence in conflict and post-conflict situations, further recognizing the need for survivors of sexual violence to receive non-discriminatory access to services such as medical and psychosocial care to the fullest extent practicable and need to be free from torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment, and that violations of the obligations on the treatment of victims can amount to serious violations of international law,

Reiterating its deep regret that civilians continue to account for the vast majority of casualties in situations of armed conflict and recalling with grave concern that the illicit transfer, destabilizing accumulation and misuse of small arms and light weapons fuel armed conflicts and have a wide range of negative human rights, humanitarian, development and socioeconomic consequences, in particular on the security of civilians in armed conflict, including the disproportionate impact on violence perpetrated against women and girls and exacerbating sexual and gender-based violence in conflict,

Acknowledging the adoption of the Arms Trade Treaty and noting the provisions in Article 7(4) of the Treaty that exporting States Parties shall take into account the risk of covered conventional arms or items being used to commit or facilitate serious acts of gender-based violence or serious acts of violence against women and children,

Recognizing the link between sexual violence in conflict and post-conflict situations and the illicit trade in natural resources, including so-called “conflict- minerals” and further recognizing the need for private sector actors to ensure that proceeds from materials acquired for their production processes do not fund armed groups that perpetuate conflict and sexual violence in conflict and post-conflict situations,

Recalling the important contribution of civil society, including women leaders and women’s organizations, to conflict prevention, resolution, and peacebuilding, including preventing and responding to sexual violence in conflict, affirming the importance of their sustained engagement and meaningful participation in all peace processes and remaining

deeply concerned about threats, attacks and restrictions on the work of civil society organizations that inhibit their ability to contribute to international peace and security,

Reaffirming its respect for the sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of all States in accordance with the Charter,

Welcoming the efforts of Member States, and recognizing the efforts of regional and subregional organizations, in implementing resolution 1325 (2000) and subsequent resolutions on Women, Peace and Security at the regional, national and local levels, including the development of action plans and other planning frameworks, with sufficient resources, and encouraging Member States to continue to pursue such implementation, including through strengthened monitoring, evaluation and coordination,

1. Reiterates its demand for the complete cessation with immediate effect by all parties to armed conflict of all acts of sexual violence and its call for these parties to make and implement specific time-bound commitments to combat sexual violence, which should include, inter alia, issuance of clear orders through chains of command and development of codes of conduct prohibiting sexual violence and establishment of related enforcement procedures to ensure accountability for breaching these orders, commitments by individual commanders, investigation of all credible allegations including on the basis of information reported by relevant UN entities and accountability for those responsible, unimpeded access for monitoring and provision of services and humanitarian assistance in areas under their control;

2. Welcomes the efforts undertaken by the Secretary-General, his Special Representative on Sexual Violence in Conflict, the Team of Experts on Rule of Law and Sexual Violence in Conflict, Women Protection Advisers, and other relevant United Nations entities in seeking time-bound commitments and implementation plans by all parties to conflict to prevent and address all acts and forms of sexual violence in conflict and post-conflict situations, encourages designation of high-level civilian, military and police focal points, as appropriate, who will be responsible for the implementation of such commitments, notes further that the Secretary-General should give due consideration to the ongoing implementation of commitments as outlined above in its annual report on sexual violence in conflict, encourages a more systematic approach and the acceleration of such efforts and welcomes the regular briefings to the Security Council by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict in this regard;

3. Encourages national authorities in this context to strengthen legislation to foster accountability for sexual violence, stresses the critical role of the domestic investigation and judicial systems of member states to prevent and eliminate sexual violence in conflict and to ensure accountability for those responsible, and requests relevant United Nations entities including the Team of Experts on the Rule of Law and Sexual Violence established pursuant to resolution 1888 to support national authorities in their efforts in this regard;

4. Recognizes the work of the of the Informal Experts Group on Women, Peace and Security, as expressed in resolution 2242, and expresses its intention to consider its information, analysis, and recommendations, acknowledging UN Women's important role in this regard, and emphasizes that sexual violence in armed conflict and post-conflict situations and all other aspects of the Women, Peace and Security agenda should continue to be addressed in this forum;

5. Reiterating deep concern that despite its repeated condemnation of violence, including sexual violence, against women and children in situations of armed conflict, and despite its calls addressed to all parties to armed conflict for the cessation of such acts with immediate effect, such acts continue to occur, often with impunity, and in some situations have become systematic and widespread, reaching appalling levels of brutality, and in this respect; requests the Secretary-General, in his next annual report to the Council on the implementation of Resolutions 1820 (2008), 1888 (2009), 1960 (2010), 2106 (2013) and the present resolution, to include a gap assessment and recommendations, within existing resources and in close consultation, with all applicable UN entities, as well as Member States, and other relevant experts, on how the Security Council can strengthen and monitor implementation of relevant commitments by parties to conflict as well as on how the UN can better support local, national, and regional efforts to address the needs of survivors of sexual violence in conflict;

6. Requests the Secretary-General and relevant UN entities to further strengthen, the monitoring, analysis and reporting arrangements on conflict-related sexual violence established pursuant to resolution 1960 (2010), including rape in situations of armed conflict, post-conflict and other situations relevant to the implementation of resolution 1888 (2009), and to consider ensuring, as appropriate, that these arrangements address sexual violence used as a tactic of war and as a tactic of terrorism, with a view to providing, within existing resources, information on the implementation of paragraph 1 of this resolution by parties to conflict;

7. Reiterates that the monitoring, analysis and reporting arrangements need to respect fully the integrity and specificity of the monitoring and reporting mechanism implemented under Security Council resolutions on children and armed conflict and reiterates its request to the Secretary General to continue to ensure full transparency, cooperation and coordination of efforts between the Special Representative of the Secretary General for Children and armed conflict and the Special Representative of the Secretary General on Sexual Violence in conflict;

8. Encourages relevant United Nations mandating bodies, as appropriate, in the establishment inter alia of commissions of inquiry and independent investigative entities to ensure that considerations to address sexual violence in armed conflict and post-conflict situations are included in their mandates and terms of reference, where relevant, and the Secretary-General to ensure that they are established and operationalized with the capacity and relevant expertise to address

such considerations, and in this regard encourages the use of existing rosters of investigators with relevant expertise; emphasizes further that all efforts to document and investigate sexual violence in conflict and post-conflict situations should take into account the specific needs of survivors, be well-coordinated, and respect safety, confidentiality and informed consent of survivors as well as independence and impartiality, and that monitoring and investigation strategies are connected to specialized multi-sectoral referral pathways to services for survivors;

9. Encourages the continued strengthening of efforts to monitor and document sexual violence in armed conflict and post-conflict situations and, as an integral part of these efforts, calls for a more systematic, reliable and rigorous approach to gathering accurate, reliable timely and sex-disaggregated information on sexual violence in conflict and post-conflict situations, in such a way that will not put at risk survivors;

10. Urges existing Sanctions Committees, where within the scope of the relevant criteria for designation, and consistent with the present and other relevant resolutions to apply targeted sanctions against those who perpetrate and direct sexual violence in conflict; and reiterates its intention, when adopting or renewing targeted sanctions in situations of armed conflict, to consider including designation criteria pertaining to acts of rape and other forms of sexual violence;

11. Encourages the Secretary General to ensure that expert groups and monitoring teams and panels for sanctions committees include members with dedicated sexual violence and gender expertise, and include information on incidents, patterns, trends and perpetrators of sexual violence in conflict and post-conflict situations in their reports and recommendations to committees, where mandated;

12. Calls upon all peacekeeping and other relevant United Nations missions and United Nations entities, in particular the Working Group on Children and Armed Conflict, the Special Representative of the Secretary General for Children and Armed Conflict, and the Special Representative of the Secretary General on Sexual Violence in Conflict, to share with relevant United Nations Security Council Sanctions Committees, including through their monitoring groups and groups of experts, all pertinent information about sexual violence, and further calls upon them to strengthen their cooperation and exchange of information in this regard;

13. Recognizes the need to integrate the prevention, response and elimination of sexual violence in conflict and post-conflict situations and addressing its root causes in all relevant resolutions, including in relevant authorizations and renewals of the mandates of peace missions through the inclusion of operational provisions;; expresses its intention to make better usage of periodical field visits to conflict areas, through the organization of interactive meetings with the local women and women 's organizations in the field about the concerns and needs of women in areas of armed conflict;; and to engage with national authorities, as appropriate, on the

prevention and response to sexual violence in conflict and post-conflict situations and engage with victims, affected communities and civil society, including women's organizations;

14. Calls upon Member States in the context of justice sector reform efforts, to strengthen legislation and enhance investigation and prosecution of sexual violence in conflict and post-conflict situations consistent with fair trial guarantees under international law, which could include enacting, if not yet established, victim and witness protection laws and providing, where appropriate, legal aid for survivors, and establishing, where appropriate, specialized police units and courts to address such crimes, removing procedural impediments to justice for victims such as restrictive limitation periods for filing claims, corroboration requirements that discriminate against victims as witnesses and complainants, exclusion or discrediting of victims' testimony by law enforcement officials and within judicial and other proceedings, and lack of facilities for closed hearings; and encourages concerned Member States to draw upon the expertise of the United Nations Team of Experts established pursuant to resolution 1888 (2009) under the strategic leadership of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict as appropriate to strengthen the rule of law and the capacity of civilian and military justice systems to address sexual violence in armed conflict and post-conflict situations as part of broader efforts to strengthen institutional safeguards against impunity;

15. Urges Member States to strengthen access to justice for victims of sexual violence in conflict and post-conflict situations, including women and girls, who are particularly targeted, including through the prompt investigation, prosecution and punishment of perpetrators of sexual and gender-based violence, as well as reparations for victims as appropriate, acknowledges the inclusion of sexual and gender-related crimes among the most serious crimes of international concern in the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, which entered into force on 1 July 2002, notes that the fight against impunity for the most serious crimes of international concern committed against women and girls has been strengthened through the work of international and mixed tribunals, as well as specialized chambers in national tribunals and reiterates its intention to continue forcefully to fight impunity and uphold accountability with appropriate means;

16. Encourages Member States to adopt a survivor-centered approach in preventing and responding to sexual violence in conflict and post-conflict situations, ensuring that prevention and response are non-discriminatory and specific, and respect the rights and prioritize needs of survivors, including groups that are particularly vulnerable or may be specifically targeted, and notably in the context of their health, education, and participation, and in this regard the Council:

a. Calls upon all Member States to ensure that survivors of sexual and gender-based violence in conflict in the respective countries receive the care required by their

specific needs and without any discrimination;

b. Notes the link between sexual violence in armed conflict and post-conflict situations and HIV infection, and the disproportionate burden of HIV and AIDS on women and girls as a persistent obstacle and challenge to gender equality;

c. Encourages leaders at the national and local level, including community, religious and traditional leaders, as appropriate and where they exist, to play a more active role in advocating within communities against sexual violence in conflict to avoid marginalization and stigmatization of survivors and their families, as well as, to assist with their social and economic reintegration and that of their children, and to address impunity for these crimes;

d. Encourages concerned Member States to ensure the opportunity for the full and meaningful participation of survivors of sexual and gender-based violence at all stages of transitional justice processes, including in decision-making roles, recognizes that women's leadership and participation will increase the likelihood that transitional justice outcomes will constitute effective redress as defined by victims and will respond to important contextual factors;

17. Recalls the applicable provisions of international law on the right to an effective remedy for violations of human rights, calls upon Member States to make such effective remedy and assistance available to victims of sexual violence in conflict, and post-conflict situations, and encourages Member States and other relevant actors to give due consideration to the establishment of a survivors' fund;

18. Recognizes that women and girls who become pregnant as a result of sexual violence in armed conflict, including those who choose to become mothers, may have different and specific needs, and noting the connected, distinct, sometimes life threatening and enduring risks and harms often faced by those women, girls and their children born as result of sexual violence in conflict, including economic and social marginalization, physical and psychological injury, statelessness, discrimination and lack of access to reparations; and urging states to recognize the equal rights of all individuals affected by sexual violence in armed conflict, including women, girls and children born of sexual violence in armed conflict, in national legislation, consistent with their obligations under the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women and the Convention on the Rights of the Child, as applicable, further requests the Secretary-General to report to the Security Council on these issues within two years and no later than the end of 2021 and requests the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Children and Armed Conflict to cooperate with the Special Representative on Sexual Violence in Conflict and other relevant UN entities on that matter;

19. Recognizes the importance of supporting, and promoting civil society, especially local, grassroots, women-led organizations, and religious and community leaders, girls- and youth-led organizations, for all prevention and response efforts; while

supporting community mobilization campaigns to help shift the stigma of sexual violence from the victims to the perpetrators, and to promote cohesion among community members where state security presence is weak;

20. Encourages concerned Member States and relevant United Nations entities to support capacity building for women-led and survivor-led organizations and build the capacity of civil society groups to enhance informal community-level protection mechanisms against sexual violence in conflict and post-conflict situations, to increase their support of women's active and meaningful engagement in peace processes to strengthen gender equality, women's empowerment and protection as a means of conflict prevention;

21. Welcomes the regular briefings by women from civil society, particularly in country-specific meetings, which has enlightened the Council on conditions in conflict countries including in relation to sexual violence, and calls upon States to condemn acts of discrimination, harassment and violence against civil society, and journalists who report on sexual violence in conflict and who are important to changing norms on roots causes, namely structural gender inequality and discrimination, and develop and put in place measures to protect them and enable them to do their work;

22. Requests the Secretary-General to ensure the timely deployment of Women Protection Advisers to relevant UN peace operations particularly at a senior level, ensuring that they have direct access to senior leadership of such peace operations, and offices of UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinators in all relevant situations of concern, to advise UN senior leadership on the implementation of the operational provisions of this resolution and other Security Council resolutions on sexual violence in conflict, including engagement with parties to conflict for time-bound commitments and establishment and functioning of the monitoring, analysis and reporting arrangements on conflict-related sexual violence, and takes note with appreciation of the Secretary-General's gender parity strategy;

23. Reiterates its intention when establishing and renewing the mandates of United Nations missions, to include provisions on the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women in conflict and post-conflict situations, including through the appointment of gender advisers as appropriate, and further expresses its intention to include provisions to facilitate women's full and effective participation and protection in: election preparation and political processes, disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programs, security sector and judicial reforms, and wider post-conflict reconstruction processes where these are mandated tasks within the mission;

24. Recognizes the role of United Nations peacekeeping contingents in preventing sexual violence, and, in this respect, calls for pre-deployment and in-mission training of troop- and police-contributing country contingents to include training on sexual and gender-based violence and encourages integration of this competence into the

performance and operational readiness standards against which troops and police are assessed;

25. Welcomes the Secretary-General's decision that all state actors repeatedly listed in the annexes of his reports on Sexual Violence in Conflict and Children and Armed Conflict are prohibited from participating in United Nations peacekeeping operations, and urges those troop- and police-contributing countries that are currently listed to cease such violations and abuses, and expeditiously implement action plans in accordance with paragraph 1 of this resolution, thereby avoiding suspension from peace operations;

26. Calls upon Member States and the United Nations to support affected countries to address sexual violence in conflict and post-conflict situations in the context of security sector reform processes including to enhance the capacity of military structures to address and prevent sexual violence related crimes, and put in place safeguards through vetting to prevent individuals credibly suspected of committing sexual violence related crimes from being recruited, retained or promoted within the security forces; encourages Member States to promote the equal opportunity of women at all levels of national police service positions and other security positions; encourage UN entities where mandated to address security sector reform to include sexual violence expertise in their field operations and ensure that these considerations are reflected in operational guidance and resourcing of their programmatic activities;

27. Encourages Member States, with the assistance of the Secretary-General and relevant United Nations entities, to ensure the integration of gender analysis and training into national disarmament, demobilization and reintegration processes, including ensuring that women formerly associated with armed groups, as well as ex-combatants, are able to access trauma services, resocialization and reintegration initiatives; reiterates in this regard the need to establish protection mechanisms for women in cantonment sites, as well as for civilians in close proximity of cantonment sites and in communities of return;

28. Stresses that acts of sexual and gender-based violence in conflict can be part of the strategic objectives and ideology of, and used as a tactic by certain parties to armed conflict, including non-state armed groups, designated as terrorist groups and therefore affirms that victims of sexual violence, committed by certain parties to armed conflict, including non-state armed groups designated as terrorist groups, should have access to national relief and reparations programmes, as well as health care, psychosocial care, safe shelter, livelihood support and legal aid and that services should include provisions for women with children born as a result of sexual violence in conflict, as well as men and boys who may have been victims of sexual violence in conflict including in detention settings; contribute to lifting the sociocultural stigma attached to this category of crime and facilitate rehabilitation and reintegration efforts;

29. Requests the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED), within its existing mandate, under the policy guidance of the Counter Terrorism Committee (CTC), and in close cooperation with UNODC, the Special Representative on Sexual Violence in Conflict, UN Women in line with resolution 2242 (2015), and other relevant entities, to continue to include in CTED's country assessments, as appropriate, information regarding Member States efforts to address the issue of trafficking in persons and its link with sexual violence in conflict and post-conflict situations committed by terrorist groups as part of their strategic objectives and ideology, and used as a tactic by certain parties to armed conflict, including non-state armed groups designated as terrorist groups;

30. Calls upon parties to conflict to ensure that ceasefire and peace agreements contain provisions that stipulate sexual violence in conflict and post-conflict situations as a prohibited act, particularly in provisions relating to disengagement, ensure further that women are present and meaningfully participate in political pre-negotiation and negotiation processes; and stresses the need for the exclusion of sexual violence crimes from amnesty and immunity provisions in the context of conflict resolution processes;

31. Recognizes that displaced persons face specific, heightened risks of sexual and gender-based violence, including sexual violence in armed conflict, as well as barriers to support services, and in accordance with international refugee law and international human rights law, as applicable, sexual violence in armed conflict and post-conflict situations may constitute a gender related form of persecution for the purposes of determining eligibility asylum or refugee status; encourages Member States to consider resettlement or local integration support for survivors, to adopt measures to mitigate the risk of sexual violence, to make services available to survivors, and to provide the option of documenting their cases for future accountability processes;

32. Notes that sexual violence in armed conflict and post-conflict situations disproportionately affects woman and girls, recognizes also that men and boys are also targets of sexual violence in conflict and post-conflict settings, including in the context of detention settings and those associated with armed groups; urges Member States to protect victims who are men and boys through the strengthening of policies that offer appropriate responses to male survivors and challenge cultural assumptions about male invulnerability to such violence; requests further that the monitoring, analysis and reporting arrangements on conflict-related sexual violence focus more consistently on the gender specific nature of sexual violence in conflict and post-conflict situations against all affected populations in all situations of concern, including men and boys;

33. Welcomes the efforts of regional and sub-regional organizations to address and eliminate sexual violence in conflict and post-conflict settings and to support Member States in this regard, and encourages them to continue those efforts;

34. Recognizes the role of United Nations Action Against Sexual Violence in Conflict as the interagency coordination forum chaired by the Special Representative on Sexual Violence in Conflict to address this problem, and encourages the revision and continued development of innovative operational tools and guidance by United Nations Action Against Sexual Violence in Conflict;

35. Calls upon Member States, United Nations entities, and civil society actors to make commitments in order to implement the Security Council resolutions on Women, Peace and Security ahead of the 20th anniversary of the adoption of resolution 1325, and to ensure that such commitments make a meaningful impact to implement the women, peace and security agenda and allow for a strengthened follow-up of its implementation, in addition, encourages Member States to adopt, and regularly refresh, fully funded national action plans to progress the Women, Peace and Security agenda;

36. Requests that the Secretary-General continue to submit annual reports to the Council on the implementation of Resolutions 1820 (2008), 1888 (2009), 1960 (2010), 2106 (2013) and the present resolution, further requests the Secretary-General, as mandated, to include gender-sensitive analysis in his conflict analysis and to continue to include information and related recommendations on issues of relevance to women, peace and security, including on sexual violence in conflict and post-conflict situations in his reports to the Council;

37. Decides to remain actively seized of the matter.

Resolution 2493 (2019)

The Security Council,

Reaffirming its commitment to the continuing and full implementation, in a mutually reinforcing manner, of resolutions 1325 (2000), 1820 (2008), 1888 (2009),

1889 (2009), 1960 (2010), 2106 (2013), 2122 (2013), 2242 (2015), and 2467 (2019)

on Women, Peace and Security, and relevant statements of its Presidents,

Bearing in mind the Purposes and Principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the primary responsibility of the Security Council under the Charter for the maintenance of international peace and security,

Reaffirming in this regard the importance to achieve sustainable peace and security by dialogue, mediation, consultations and political negotiations to bridge differences and to end conflicts,

Recognizing the progress made as well as the opportunity and need for far greater implementation of the women, peace and security agenda, remaining deeply concerned by persisting barriers to the full implementation of resolution 1325 (2000) and the frequent under-representation of women in many formal processes and bodies related to the maintenance of international peace and security, the relatively low number of women in senior positions in political, peace and security-related national, regional and international institutions, the lack of adequate gender-sensitive humanitarian responses and support for women's leadership roles in these settings, insufficient financing for Women, Peace and Security, and the resulting detrimental impact on the maintenance of international peace and security,

Recognizing that an understanding of the impact of armed conflict on women and girls, effective institutional arrangements to guarantee their protection and full participation in the peace process can significantly contribute to the maintenance and promotion of international peace and security,

Recalling the commitments of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and reaffirming the obligations of State Parties to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women, the Optional Protocol thereto, urging states that have not yet done so to consider ratifying or acceding to them, noting General Recommendation 30 of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women on Women in Conflict Prevention, Conflict and Post Conflict Situations,

Reaffirming the primary role of Member States to implement fully all Security Council resolutions on Women, Peace and Security, and the important complementary role of United Nations entities and regional organizations, further recognizing that States

bear the primary responsibility to respect and ensure the human rights of all persons within their territory and subject to their jurisdiction as provided for by international law, and reaffirming that parties to armed conflict bear the primary responsibility to ensure the protection of civilians,

Recognizing the important role and contribution of civil society, including women's organizations, in the full implementation of Security Council resolutions on Women, Peace and Security,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General of 9 October 2019 and its operational recommendations for the UN and Member States in the lead up to the 20th anniversary of Resolution 1325 and, recalling the report of the Secretary-General of 17 September 2015 (S/2015/716) which submitted the recommendations of the Global Study on the implementation of resolution 1325,

Welcoming the efforts of Member States, and regional and subregional organizations, in implementing resolution 1325 (2000) and subsequent resolutions on Women, Peace and Security at the regional, national and local levels, including the development of action plans and other complementary implementation planning frameworks, with sufficient resources, and encouraging Member States to continue to pursue such implementation, including through strengthened monitoring, evaluation and coordination,

Recognizing the opportunity presented by the number of significant anniversaries in 2020 notably the 20th anniversary of Resolution 1325, the 75th anniversary of the United Nations, the 25th anniversary of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and calling on all Member States to commit to the promotion of women and girls' empowerment in peace and security processes and to use these anniversaries to intensify their national efforts and international co-operation,

1. Urges Member States to fully implement the provisions of all previous Security Council Resolutions pertaining to the Women, Peace and Security agenda and to reinforce their efforts in this regard;
2. Further urges Member States to commit to implementing the Women, Peace and Security agenda and its priorities by ensuring and promoting the full, equal and meaningful participation of women in all stages of peace processes, including through mainstreaming a gender perspective, and remain committed to increasing the number of civilian and uniformed women in peacekeeping at all levels and in key positions;
3. Urges Member States supporting peace processes to facilitate women's full, equal and meaningful inclusion and participation in peace talks from the outset, both in negotiating parties' delegations and in the mechanisms set up to implement and monitor agreements, encourages Member States to support efforts, including timely support to women to enhance their participation and capacity building in peace

processes, in order to address the unequal representation and participation of women in the peace and security agenda;

4. Noting the Peacebuilding Commission mandate pursuant to resolution 1645 (2005) and its gender strategy and calls for its full implementation to further promote women's participation in peacebuilding efforts, and in the prevention of conflict, and encourages the Peacebuilding Commission to continue to support the participation of women-led peacebuilding organizations, in planning and stabilization efforts in post-conflict reconstruction and recovery;

5. Calls on Member States to promote all the rights of women, including civil, political and economic rights, urges them to increase their funding on women, peace and security including through more aid in conflict and post-conflict situations for programmes that further gender equality and women's economic empowerment and security, as well as through support to civil society, and to support countries in armed conflict and post-conflict situations, including through access to education, training and capacity-building, in their implementation of women, peace and security resolutions, further calls for increased international development cooperation related to women's empowerment and gender equality and invites aid providers to continue to track the gender focus of aid contributions and provide further information and assessment on this progress;

6. Strongly encourages Member States to create safe and enabling environments for civil society, including formal and informal community women leaders, women peacebuilders, political actors, and those who protect and promote human rights, to carry out their work independently and without undue interference, including in situations of armed conflict, and to address threats, harassment, violence and hate speech against them;

7. Takes note of the work of the Informal Experts Group on Women, Peace and Security as expressed in resolution 2242 (2015) to facilitate a more systematic approach to Women, Peace and Security within its own work and enable greater oversight and coordination of implementation efforts; and acknowledges UN Women's important role in this regard;

8. Encourages regional organizations to consider convening meetings in the lead up to the 20th commemoration of resolution 1325 with the participation of governments, relevant stakeholders and civil society to review the implementation of the Women, Peace and Security agenda in their respective regions, and further encourages them to identify practical and measurable steps for fully implementing the agenda, and invites them to report on this progress, during the annual open debate of the Security Council;

9. Requests the Secretary-General to ensure the full implementation of the Women, Peace and Security agenda, requests that all Heads of UN Entities, lend all possible support to the Secretary-General in this matter to:

(a) develop context-specific approaches for women's participation in all UN-supported peace talks, including country specific situations, in order to contribute to full, equal and meaningful participation of women in peace and security, to ensure more inclusive participation;

(b) to continue to make use of the UN's annual consultations with regional organizations to encourage the implementation of the Women, Peace and Security agenda as it relates to their specific contexts, further encourages cooperation and sharing of best practices as it relates to implementation of the agenda, as requested by regional and subregional organizations;

(c) continue mainstreaming a gender perspective in the Secretariat and United Nations agencies, including through the system-wide gender parity strategy;

10. Requests the Secretary-General to include the following in his next annual report on the implementation of resolution 1325 (2000) and its subsequent resolutions:

(a) further information on, progress made and the remaining challenges in the Women, Peace and Security agenda as well as recommendations to address new and emerging challenges;

(b) the implementation of the appointment of gender advisers and/or women protection advisers, provisions to facilitate women's full and effective participation and protection in: the election preparation and political processes, disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programs, security sector and judicial reforms, and wider post-conflict reconstruction processes where these are mandated tasks within the UN mission;

(c) an assessment of the progress and commitments made on dedicated gender expertise in expert groups and monitoring teams in UN Security Council Sanctions Committees and how this commitment is met, as articulated in previous resolutions;

11. Decides to remain actively seized of the matter.

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SECTION 4

SECOND NATIONAL ACTION PLAN(NAP) OF THE REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA ON UNSCR 1325

2022-2024 SECOND NATIONAL ACTION PLAN OF THE REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE UN SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 1325 ON WOMEN, PEACE AND SECURITY

Introduction

The Republic of Armenia developed the 2022 – 2024 National Action Plan for the implementation of the UN Security Council Resolution 1325, thus reaffirming the country's willingness to continue work towards women, peace and security. The plan is based on the previous National Action Plan analysis and takes into consideration the achievements and lessons learnt.

The Second National Action Plan of the Republic of Armenia reflects the issues and challenges that have emerged for the women in the border regions of Armenia and Artsakh (Nagorno Karabakh) as a result of the hostilities unleashed against NK people by Azerbaijan in autumn 2020. As a result of the war of aggression, 80 civilians were killed of which 12 were women, the majority of these casualties were elderly people.

The war of aggression has led to the forced displacement of more than 91.000 persons who were provided with shelter in Armenia, 88 percent of them being women and children. The aggressive hostilities had their impact on regional stability and jeopardized the lives and health of hundreds of thousands of people.

The hostilities were launched and ran in the conditions of the COVID-19 pandemic, thus further complicating the disadvantageous and difficult situation women and girls had found themselves in.

Thus, the Plan reflects the problems of women and girls who have found themselves in emergency situations, with reference to the human security component. The Plan specifies the issues of forcibly displaced women, the security-related challenges and their impact on women and girls due to the newly emerged borderline and the situation in the border regions.

The Second National Action Plan is prioritized in the context of women's participation,

underlining the necessity of involving local self-governing bodies in order to ensure the effective implementation of the provisions of the Plan locally.

The NAP covers a timeline of three years and, being a living document, can be revised and amended, to reflect the situation.

The Plan has been designed after the principle of inclusive participation, particularly, with the involvement of non-governmental organizations and women affected by the war, including those who were displaced from Artsakh (Nagorno Karabakh).

The NAP reaffirms the necessity of cooperation among various domestic bodies as well as that of international cooperation. Based on the original pillars of participation, protection, prevention, recovery and relief of UNSCR 1325, a new and separate direction of cooperation is added to the 2022 – 2024 NAP. The NAP defines a new strategy of monitoring and proposes a mechanism which can best describe the effectiveness of its implementation.

The NAP is in line with other strategies on women's promotion and gender equality, as designed and implemented in Armenia, which enables an accurate calculation and use of potential human and financial resources. The Plan has taken into account Armenia's international commitments on the rights of women and gender equality issues, including those in the framework of the UN Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, 2030 Sustainable Development Goals, the Universal Periodic Review and others.

Armenia has included the implementation of the UNSCR 1325 provisions in the list of its 2020 – 2022 priorities for membership to the Human Rights Council.

As a country fighting against atrocity crimes, Armenia highly prioritizes the role of women and girls in the context of genocide prevention, taking into consideration that the UNSCR 1325 "Emphasizes the responsibility of all States to put an end to impunity and to prosecute those responsible for genocide, crimes against humanity, and war crimes including those relating to sexual and other violence against women and girls, and in this regard stresses the need to exclude these crimes, where feasible from amnesty provisions."

1. Participation

N	Objective	Measures	Performance Indicators	Time limit	Responsible Executor	Co-executors	Sources of Funding
1.	Promote policies for the involvement of women in different divisions of the armed forces	Raising awareness on the role of women in the armed forces	Implementation of appropriate mechanisms to promote women's involvement in policy-making in the defense sector Increase of the number of female applicants to military educational institutions of the Republic of Armenia.	2022-2024	Ministry of Defense	International organizations, stakeholder countries, non-governmental organizations (upon consent)	State budget Funding from international organizations Funding from non-governmental organizations Other sources not prohibited by law
2	Enhance the involvement and promotion of women in the Police	Enhanced involvement of female applicants and instructors in the Police Academy Raising awareness among decision makers in the Police system on the issues of women and equal rights and opportunities for women and men	Increased number of measures aimed at career guidance, including an increased number of courses	2022-2024	Police Ministry of Justice	Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sport International organizations, stakeholder countries and non-governmental organizations (upon consent)	State budget Funding from international organizations Funding from non-governmental organizations Other sources, not prohibited by law

3	Ensure the involvement of women, residing in border regions (including those who have found themselves in the new security situation), and forcibly displaced women in the discussion of security-related issues	Ensuring women's involvement and participation in the activities of LSGs and development of community development programmes Assessment of women's security needs Inclusion of the security component in the projects of non-governmental organizations, including women's resource centers	Increased number of discussions and courses on security issues for female members of community Elders' Councils Reflection of women's security needs assessment findings in all RA strategies	2022-2024	Local self-government bodies of border communities	Other bodies of RA state administration Armenian Red Cross Society (upon consent) International organizations, stakeholder countries and non-governmental organizations (upon consent)	State budget Funding from international organizations Funding from non-governmental organizations Other sources, not prohibited by law
4	Ensure women's participation in decision-making on climate change mitigation, adaptation, as well as the development of national and community programmes	Identification of economic sectors and communities more vulnerable to climate change and development of relevant programmes, with the involvement of women's professional and social groups	Ensuring equal opportunities for women's participation in the national and community programmes on the relevant sectors	2022-2024	Ministry of Environment	RA regional administrations and local self-government bodies (upon consent) UN Development Programme (upon consent) Other international organizations, stakeholder countries and non-governmental organizations (upon consent)	State budget Funding from international organizations Funding from non-governmental organizations Other sources, not prohibited by law

5	Increased preparedness of women to resist crisis situations in border communities	Organizing training on population protection and civil protection in crisis situations in border communities	Ensuring an increased number of women, participating in drills	2022-2024	Ministry of Emergency Situations	Armenian Red Cross Society (upon consent) United Nations Population Fund (upon consent) Other international organizations, stakeholder countries and non-governmental organizations (upon consent)	State budget Funding from international organizations Funding from non-governmental organizations Other sources, not prohibited by law
6	Presentation of the importance of women's role in the defense system	Organizing meetings and conferences with various groups of the society on the role of women in the defense system; also with the participation of international experts	Increased number of conferences and workshops	2022-2024	Ministry of Defense	Human Rights Defender (upon consent) International organizations, stakeholder countries and non-governmental organizations (upon consent)	State budget Funding from international organizations Funding from non-governmental organizations Other sources, not prohibited by law

2. Protection

N	Objective	Measures	Performance Indicators	Time limit	Responsible Executor	Co-executors	Sources of Funding
7	Ensure protection of women and girls from violence during conflicts.	Building the capacity and increasing the gender sensitivity of entities, responsible for addressing the issues of the displaced and provision of shelter Training for law-enforcement bodies and judges Improvement of referral mechanisms for women having experienced violence, including sexual abuse; localization of best international practices	Conducting research, as appropriate Organization of courses and raised awareness (mechanisms for the protection of victims' rights and whistle-blowing)	2022-2024	Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs Police Academy of Justice (with consent)	Ministry of Defense Ministry of Emergency Situations National Security Service Regional administrations and local self-government bodies (upon consent) Human Rights Defender (upon consent) Armenian Red Cross Society (upon consent) International organizations, stakeholder countries and non-governmental organizations (upon consent)	State budget Funding from international organizations Funding from non-governmental organizations Other sources, not prohibited by law
8	Ensure the exercise of socio-economic rights of women and girls, impacted by the NK conflict, including those affected by the 2020 aggression	Needs assessment Development of socio-economic programmes Ensuring employment and self-employment Increased competitiveness of women in the labour market	Implementation of employment programmes for the indicated vulnerable groups Increased number of women in the labour market	2022-2024	Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs Ministry of Health	Ministry of Justice Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sport International organizations, stakeholder countries and non-governmental organizations (upon consent)	State budget Funding from international organizations Funding from non-governmental organizations Other sources, not prohibited by law

9	Ensure the special protection of women and girls in case of wars, emergency situations and epidemics	Building shelters in border settlements and making adjustments to existing shelters, based on gender-specific standards Ensuring gender sensitivity in the implementation and application of COVID-19 pandemic response	Increased number and improved quality of shelters Existence of civil protection courses, considering gender-related specificities	2022-2024	RA Ministry of Emergency Situations RA Ministry of Health	RA Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs Migration Service of RA Ministry of Territorial Administration and Infrastructure RA Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sport RA Urban Development Committee International organizations, stakeholder countries and non-governmental organizations (upon consent)	State budget Funding from international organizations Funding from non-governmental organizations Other sources, not prohibited by law
10	Support the social adaptation of the wives of military servicemen, deployed in the military units in border settlements	Collaboration with national institutions, local self-governing bodies, non-governmental organizations on the social integration of military servicemen's wives	Conducting professional training courses to ensure employment for military servicemen's wives	2022-2024	RA Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs RA Ministry of Territorial Administration and Infrastructure	RA Ministry of Defense	State budget Funding from international organizations Funding from non-governmental organizations Other sources, not prohibited by law
11	Teach courses, aimed at the development of first aid skills in emergency situations and/or at war (paying special attention to displaced women and women in border regions)	Collaboration with LSGs	Increased number of first aid courses for women and girls	2022-2024	RA Ministry of Emergency Situations	RA Ministry of Health RA regional administrations and local self-government bodies (upon consent) Armenian Red Cross Society	State budget Funding from international organizations Funding from non-governmental organizations Other sources, not prohibited by law

3. Prevention

N	Objective	Measures	Performance Indicators	Time limit	Responsible Executor	Co-executors	Sources of Funding
12	Participation of women and girls in activities, aimed at the prevention of genocides, crimes against humanity and war crimes	Examination and collection of cases on the violations of international humanitarian law and international human rights law (including those committed as a result of 2020 aggression against NK) against civilians, raising awareness these cases Studying the work by the RA for genocide prevention Organizing special training for the peace-keeping contingent and Police staff	Development and dissemination of training materials Summary information on Armenia's international work towards genocide prevention	2022-2024	RA Ministry of Defense RA Ministry of Foreign Affairs Office of the representative of the Republic of Armenia to the European Court of Human Rights	Human Rights Defender (upon consent) International organizations, stakeholder countries and non-governmental organizations (upon consent)	Funding from international organizations Funding from non-governmental organizations Other sources, not prohibited by law
13	Raising awareness on and development of skills, related to the topics on women, security and peace	Increasing awareness on UN SCR 1325, translation and dissemination of related resolutions English translation of UN SCR 1325 second national action plan Ensuring wide awareness raising on international documents regarding women's rights	Increased number of women involved in the awareness raising campaigns and courses for skills development Availability of Armenian-language training manuals on women's rights	2022-2024	RA Ministry of Foreign Affairs RA Ministry of Justice RA Ministry of Defense RA Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sport	International organizations, stakeholder countries and non-governmental organizations (upon consent)	Funding from international organizations Funding from non-governmental organizations Other sources, not prohibited by law

14	Building educational capacity, including information on UN SCR 1325 in educational curricula	Inclusion of courses on ensuring the protection of human rights and equal opportunities in the defense system or related sectors, in the curricula of higher educational and vocational educational institutions Including awareness raising materials in the modules for teachers' pre-attestation training programmes Training of academic staff and preparation of training materials	Availability of relevant courses, training materials and lectures in the curricula of higher educational institutions in RA Availability of relevant courses, educational materials and lectures in the curricula of military educational institutions Availability of awareness raising materials the training modules for school teachers and academic staff	2022-2024	RA Ministry of Defense RA Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sport RA Academy of Justice	International organizations, stakeholder countries and non-governmental organizations (upon consent)	Funding from international organizations Funding from non-governmental organizations Other sources, not prohibited by law
15	Increase awareness among the staff of General Military Investigative Department of the Investigative Committee and Military Prosecutor's Office on the protection of women's rights	Organization of workshops for the representatives of the Investigative Committee and the Military Prosecutor's Office on the protection of women's rights in the security sector	An increased number of workshops for awareness raising in the military law enforcement bodies	2022-2024	RA Ministry of Defense RA Investigative Committee Prosecutor General's Office of the RA RA Academy of Justice	Human Rights Defender (upon consent) International organizations, stakeholder countries and non-governmental organizations (upon consent)	Funding from international organizations Funding from non-governmental organizations Other sources, not prohibited by law
16	Implementation of measures for the involvement of women in cyber security programmes, building confidence in digital solutions	Create a national excellence center for cyber security	Enhanced cyber security and fight against cybercrimes, protection of personal data, considering the specific issues, related to women	2022-2024	RA Ministry of High-Tech Industry	International organizations, stakeholder countries and non-governmental organizations (upon consent)	Funding from international organizations Funding from non-governmental organizations Other sources, not prohibited by law

4. Relief and recovery

N	Objective	Measures	Performance Indicators	Time limit	Responsible Executor	Co-executors	Sources of Funding
17	Provision of psychological and legal assistance to forcibly displaced women or women under risk of displacement, based on the needs assessment findings	Needs assessment Development and implementation of rehabilitation (including psychological) and integration programmes Provision and improved quality of rehabilitation and integration services	Assessed needs of displaced women and those under risk of displacement, development and implementation of a relevant integration plan	2022-2024	RA Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs Migration Service of RA Ministry of Territorial Administration and Infrastructure	RA Ministry of Health RA Ministry of Emergency Situations International organizations, stakeholder countries and non-governmental organizations (upon consent)	State budget Funding from international organizations Funding from non-governmental organizations Other sources, not prohibited by law
18	Ensure the protection of the social and economic rights of women and girls, residing in settlements, affected by the NK conflict, including the use of force in 2016 and 2020	Implementation of socio-economic projects for women and girls affected by the NK conflict, including those, aimed at ensuring livelihoods, employment and self-employment, as well as increased income. Ensuring women's access to economic integration projects Creating a favourable environment and increased competitiveness of women in the labour market	Revision of socio-economic projects and an increased number thereof Involvement of women affected by the conflict in the projects implemented by women's resource centers Adjustment of the environment and increased number of jobs	2022-2024	RA Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs RA Ministry of Territorial Administration and Infrastructure Migration Service LSGs, at the consent of Yerevan Municipality	RA Ministry of Economy Inspection body RA Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sport International organizations, stakeholder countries and non-governmental organizations (upon consent)	State budget Funding from international organizations Funding from non-governmental organizations Other sources, not prohibited by law
19	Organization of Armenian language classes for the forcibly displaced, as well as those who qualified as refugees and were granted a shelter	Needs assessment and presentation of the total number	Organized training sessions of Armenian as a foreign language for the specified groups	2022-2024	RA Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sport Migration Service of RA MTAI	International organizations, non-governmental organizations (upon consent)	State budget Funding from international organizations Funding from non-governmental organizations Other sources, not prohibited by law

5. Cooperation

N	Objective	Measures	Performance Indicators	Time limit	Responsible Executor	Co-executors	Sources of Funding
20	Ensure cooperation among all local platforms within UN SCR 1325 programme	Promotion of collaboration, joint implementation of projects, mutual visits and exchange of experience	An increased number of joint visits and implemented projects	2022-2024	RA Ministry of Foreign Affairs	All bodies that are members of the Commission on 1325 International organizations, stakeholder countries and non-governmental organizations (upon consent)	Funding from international organizations Funding from non-governmental organizations Other sources, not prohibited by law
21	Ensure cooperation with countries that have UN SCR 1325 National Action Plans, stakeholder international organizations and women's foundations	Mutual visits, exchange of experience, involvement of experts Holding joint conferences Application of the best international practice Joining regional and international UN SCR 1325 networks	Strengthened knowledge Improved position of the RA on international platforms	2022-2024	RA Ministry of Foreign Affairs	All bodies that are members of the Commission on 1325 International organizations, stakeholder countries and non-governmental organizations (upon consent)	Funding from international organizations Funding from non-governmental organizations Other sources, not prohibited by law
22	Study the international best practice and start collaboration to enhance women's participation in the defense sector	Studying the best practice of advanced countries, organizing visits Cooperation with international bodies working on the topic of women, peace and security	Development and submission of recommendations as a result of obtained knowledge and research	2022-2024	RA Ministry of Defense	RA Ministry of Foreign Affairs International organizations, stakeholder countries and non-governmental organizations (upon consent)	Funding from international organizations Funding from non-governmental organizations Other sources, not prohibited by law

23	Ensure collaboration and exchange of experience for the implementation of UN SCR 1325 and related resolutions with the authorities and non-governmental organizations in Nagorno Karabakh	Organization of regular consultations and topical discussions, also with the participation of international experts	A definite number of consultations and topical discussions	2022-2024	RA Ministry of Foreign Affairs	RA stakeholder agencies International organizations, stakeholder countries and non-governmental organizations (upon consent)	Funding from international organizations Funding from non-governmental organizations Other sources, not prohibited by law
24	Ensure cooperation with the UN Secretary-General's Office on Genocide Prevention	Exploration of UN's experience with the prevention of mass atrocities against women and girls and their protection	Involvement in the international discussions on the issues of early prevention, peace-keeping missions, victims' protection, justice and compensation	2022-2024	RA Ministry of Foreign Affairs	RA stakeholder agencies International organizations, stakeholder countries and non-governmental organizations (upon consent)	Funding from international organizations Funding from non-governmental organizations Other sources, not prohibited by law

6. Monitoring and Assessment

Submission of annual reports by the members of the Interagency Commission, ensuring the implementation of Resolution 1325. Establishment of a working group, consisting of agencies and NGOs that are members of the Commission (with the involvement of international experts, as appropriate), to assess the submitted reports and evaluate the effectiveness of the conducted work.

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SECTION 5

USEFUL INFORMATION

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS WORKING ON WOMEN, PEACE AND SECURITY (WPS)

1. Amnesty International¹⁸⁴
2. CARE International¹⁸⁵
3. Center for Reproductive Rights¹⁸⁶
4. Conciliation Resources¹⁸⁷
5. Consortium on Gender Security and Human Rights¹⁸⁸
6. Cordaid¹⁸⁹
7. Democracy Today¹⁹⁰
8. European Union External Action Service (EEAS)¹⁹¹
9. Georgetown Institute for Women Peace and Security¹⁹²
10. Global Justice Center¹⁹³
11. Global Network of Women Peacebuilders¹⁹⁴
12. Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict¹⁹⁵
13. Human Rights Watch¹⁹⁶
14. International Alert¹⁹⁷

184. Amnesty International. Amnesty International - Home page. <https://www.amnesty.org/en/>.

185. CARE International. CARE International - Home page. <https://www.care-international.org/>.

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18. MADRE²⁰¹
19. Nobel Women's Initiative²⁰²
20. North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO)²⁰³
21. Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE)²⁰⁴
22. Outright Action International²⁰⁵
23. OXFAM International²⁰⁶
24. Peace Orientations Training Institute²⁰⁷
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ABBREVIATIONS

CRSV	Conflict-Related Sexual Violence
CR-SGBV	Conflict-Related Sexual and Gender Based Violence
GBV	Gender-Based Violence
NATO	North Atlantic Treaty Organization
WHO	World Health Organization
UNO	United Nations Organization
UNSC	United Nations Security Council
UNSCR	United Nations Security Council Resolution
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
SEA	Sexual Exploitation and Abuse
DPO	Department of Peace Operations
WPS	Women, Peace and Security Agenda
CESCR	The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women
CSO	Civil Society Organization
CBMs	Confidence Building Measures
DDR	Disarmament, Demobilization, and Reintegration
IDPs	Internally Displaced Persons
ECCHR	European Center for Constitutional and Human Rights
R2P	Responsibility To Protect
NAP	National Action Plan
LAP	Local Action Plan
HIV	human immunodeficiency virus
AIDS	acquired immunodeficiency syndrome
SSR	Security Sector Reform
HC/RC	Humanitarian Coordinator / Resident Coordinator
ICC	International Criminal Court
WPA	Women Protection Advisor
DPKO	Department of Peace Operations
DPA	Department of Political Affairs
JICA	Japan International Cooperation Agency
HDR	Human Development Report
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
NCD	Non-Communicable Diseases

RECOMMENDATIONS

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